Special Edition

Volume 12
Issue 05
June-July-August 2023
₹150

CIO&LEADER

TRACK TECHNOLOGY • BUILD BUSINESS • SHAPE SELF

FUTURE OF BUSINESS

At the **24th annual CIO&Leader Conference**, over **100 CIOs** from India's top companies gathered to create a strategic tech advisory for India Inc.

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EDITORIAL

Shyamanuja Das
shyamanuja.das@9dot9.in

India's tech brilliance: No longer hidden

It is not enough to do good things. You must talk about them," Reed Hundt, the legendary former chairman of FCC, the US communications regulator, had told me in an interview two and half decades back. Hundt, who unlocked the value of the frequency spectrum, was a visionary.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi surely believes in Hundt's philosophy. The kind of attention that India is getting around various technology initiatives (including Digital Public Infrastructure) that it is driving as the president of G20 is a testimony to the success of this approach.

Believe it or not, when President Obama was driving an open government initiative in the US, and the US championed it around the world, many small countries didn't have the wherewithal to roll them out, it is India that built an easy-to-use technology platform for the purpose. Without this vital contribution from many countries, it would not have been able to do it. It was in 2011-12. How many today know about it? India never talked about it. It was seen as a US initiative.

Today, not only does the global community know about India's contribution, they openly acknowledge it, as is evident from the Delhi Declaration of G20.

When President Obama was driving an open government initiative in the US, and the US championed it around the world, many small countries didn't have the wherewithal to roll them out, it is India that built an easy-to-use technology platform for the purpose.

But that also comes with greater responsibility. For a long time, few nations have driven technology's direction by influencing standard and framework making. All these countries have very active user groups, who are very involved in the consultation process. In India, we need to actively build those groups, which work on specific technologies and applications. We have platforms like the CIO&LEADER annual conference, which can work as forums for such consultations.

As you read about this year's conference in this issue, just think about it and share your suggestions. ■

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CIO&LEADER

www.cioandleader.com

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OFFICE ADDRESS

9.9 Group Pvt. Ltd.
(Formerly known as Nine Dot Nine Mediaworx Pvt. Ltd.)
121, Patparganj, Mayur Vihar, Phase - I
Near Mandir Masjid, Delhi-110091
Published, Printed and Owned by 9.9 Group Pvt. Ltd.
(Formerly known as Nine Dot Nine Mediaworx Pvt. Ltd.)
Published and printed on their behalf by
Vikas Gupta. Published at 121, Patparganj,
Mayur Vihar, Phase - I, Near Mandir Masjid, Delhi-110091,
India. Printed at Tara Art Printers Pvt Ltd., A-46-47, Sector-5,
NOIDA (U.P.) 201301.

Editor: **Vikas Gupta**

Cover Design by:
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ADVERTISERS' INDEX

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CapitaLand

CIO&LEADER
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We focus on **Building Resilient**, **Secure**, and **Sustainable Data Centres** for India

Surajit Chatterjee, Managing Director of Data Centre at CapitaLand Investment, Discusses his Company's India Strategy and Data Centre Trends

Amidst India's ongoing digital revolution and the increasing adoption of data-intensive technologies like cloud computing, AI, 5G, and IoT, the demand for data centres is rising significantly. As data localisation regulations come into effect, organisations are seeking reliable and secure local computing powerhouses that can provide scalable data storage and processing infrastructure.

CapitaLand Investment, a Singapore-based company, recognizes these emerging needs and is actively expanding its investments in India. They aim to deliver innovative, secure, and dependable data centre solutions to support India's ongoing digital transformation. In a recent interaction with CIO&Leader, **Surajit Chatterjee,** the Managing Director of Data Centre, India at CapitaLand Investment, provides insights into his company's plans for India and discusses current data centre trends. Here are the excerpts from the interview.

- ***What factors contribute to the growing demand for data centres in India?***

  India is currently experiencing a digital revolution. We saw this firsthand at CapitaLand, as the demand for data centres is increasing significantly. The exponential growth of digital services, e-commerce, cloud adoption, and remote work has dramatically increased demand for data centres. With the rise of data-intensive technologies such as AI, IoT, and Big Data, there has never been a greater demand for robust, dependable, and scalable data storage and processing infrastructure. Regulatory initiatives that encourage data localisation have also contributed to this desire. CapitaLand is ideally positioned to address these expanding demands. We are devoted to offering innovative, dependable, and secure data centre solutions to support India's continuing digital transformation.

- ***How does CapitaLand utilise new-age technologies to drive innovation and efficiency in data centres?***

  CapitaLand is leveraging emerging technologies to boost innovation and efficiency in its data centres. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are crucial to our operations, allowing us to do predictive maintenance and reduce downtime. IoT sensors are crucial in real-time monitoring, allowing us to optimise operations and effectively regulate energy consumption. Automation technologies expedite our operations, and future-ready technology enables us to provide scalable, personalised services. Our dedication to implementing these innovative solutions distinguishes us, and we are delighted to be pioneers in this tech-driven transformation of data centre services.

- ***What are the emerging trends in Data Centre Infrastructure Management (DCIM)?***

  Data Centre Infrastructure Management (DCIM) is evolving due to the incorporation of AI, IoT, and cloud technologies. AI and machine learning will allow us to evaluate data and predict maintenance requirements, thereby reducing equipment breakdowns and maximising uptime. IoT devices enable us to monitor numerous environmental elements and the health of our equipment in real-time, allowing us to respond swiftly to any difficulties. CapitaLand is at the forefront of these trends, ensuring its data centres are future-proof and run efficiently.

- ***How are you integrating renewable energy sources into your operations?***

  Sustainability is essential to CapitaLand's business. Whenever possible, we are integrating sustainable energy sources into our data centres. Not only does using solar panels and wind energy lower our carbon footprint, but it also increases our energy efficiency. Additionally, we are investigating alternative renewable energy sources and integrating energy-efficient designs and technologies. Our efforts in this area indicate our determination to lead the data centre industry into a more sustainable future.

- ***How do data centres tackle the challenges posed by increasing data storage and processing demands?***

  The exponential growth in data storage and processing requirements is a crucial obstacle for the data centre sector. CapitaLand is equipped to meet these requirements. Our scalable data centres allow us to satisfy our customers in expanding data storage requirements. For rapid data access, we are introducing sophisticated storage technologies. In addition, load balancing and efficient data distribution techniques will help us successfully control processing loads, allowing us to retain optimal performance and dependability.

- ***What are the key considerations for ensuring data centre security and resilience?***

  Data centre operations place the utmost significance on data security and resiliency. CapitaLand is investing in cutting-edge physical security systems and tight access controls to protect our facilities' safety. We are deploying network firewalls, intrusion detection systems, and sophisticated data encryption measures on the digital front. We have also included robust disaster recovery methods, such as redundant systems and regular data backups. Regular vulnerability evaluations and audits allow us to detect and mitigate any issues proactively, providing our clients with the most significant data security.

- ***How do data centres leverage virtualisation technologies for improved resource utilisation and scalability?***

  Virtualisation technologies provide numerous benefits for data centre operations. CapitaLand is utilising these technologies to maximise resource utilisation and scalability. Allowing numerous virtual servers to run on a single physical server may increase efficiency and minimise expenses. Software-defined storage and networking further optimise resource allocation, allowing us to expand our services in response to fluctuating demand.

- ***What does the future hold for data centres in India? What are your plans?***

  The outlook for data centres in India is very positive. The rate of digital transformation is accelerating, and data localisation policies will increase the demand for data centres. CapitaLand will continue to invest in modern technologies and infrastructures, improve energy efficiency, and promote sustainability in the future. We intend to extend our presence with more resilient, secure, and environmentally friendly data centres to serve India's enterprises & its digital infrastructure requirements.

Reach out to us at: dcmarketing@capitaland.com to learn more.

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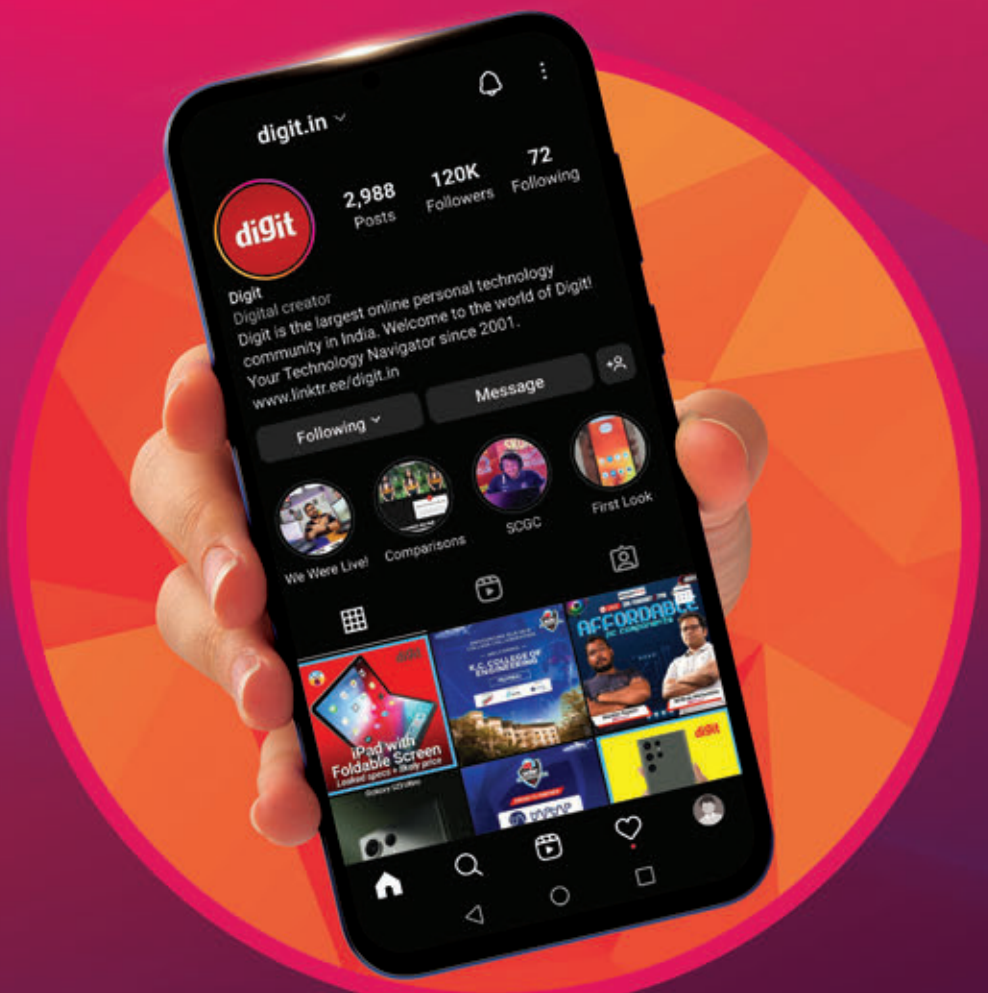


EDITOR'S LENS

Jatinder Singh
Executive Editor, CIO&Leader

Future of Business

The 24th Annual CIO&Leader Conference, held from August 3-5, 2023, as covered in detail in this issue, stood out in many ways. Following last year's theme, "The New Blueprint," this year's conference focused on "The Future of Business." Over 200 influential CIOs and future CIOs from top Indian organizations came together to discuss and create an action plan on how AI, Cloud, and Data Analytics can drive innovation, make organizations more efficient, and drive growth.

Generative AI, a subset of Artificial Intelligence, was the talk of the town due to its tremendous potential. Yet, as Prof. Toby Walsh of the AI Institute of UNSW, Sydney rightly pointed out in his keynote address, it introduces a major challenge – the need for trust. Hence, the thoughtful deployment of Generative AI becomes critical to counter the threat of misinformation.

From our insightful exchanges, there was an undivided understanding: While enterprises are sailing into the AI horizon to uncover new opportunities and draft visionary business blueprints, they must ground these tech advancements in a bedrock of ethics. Topping our discussion agenda were challenges around cybersecurity, connectivity, IT optimization, and talent management.

Your deliberations, captured as "The Future of Business," are set to arm CEOs with persuasive, actionable insights to architect the next era of their businesses.

Your deliberations, captured as "The Future of Business," are set to arm CEOs with persuasive, actionable insights to architect the next era of their businesses. We are in the process of curating your deliberations into a book, which will spotlight how technology can cater to CEO imperatives and pave the way for future-ready businesses.

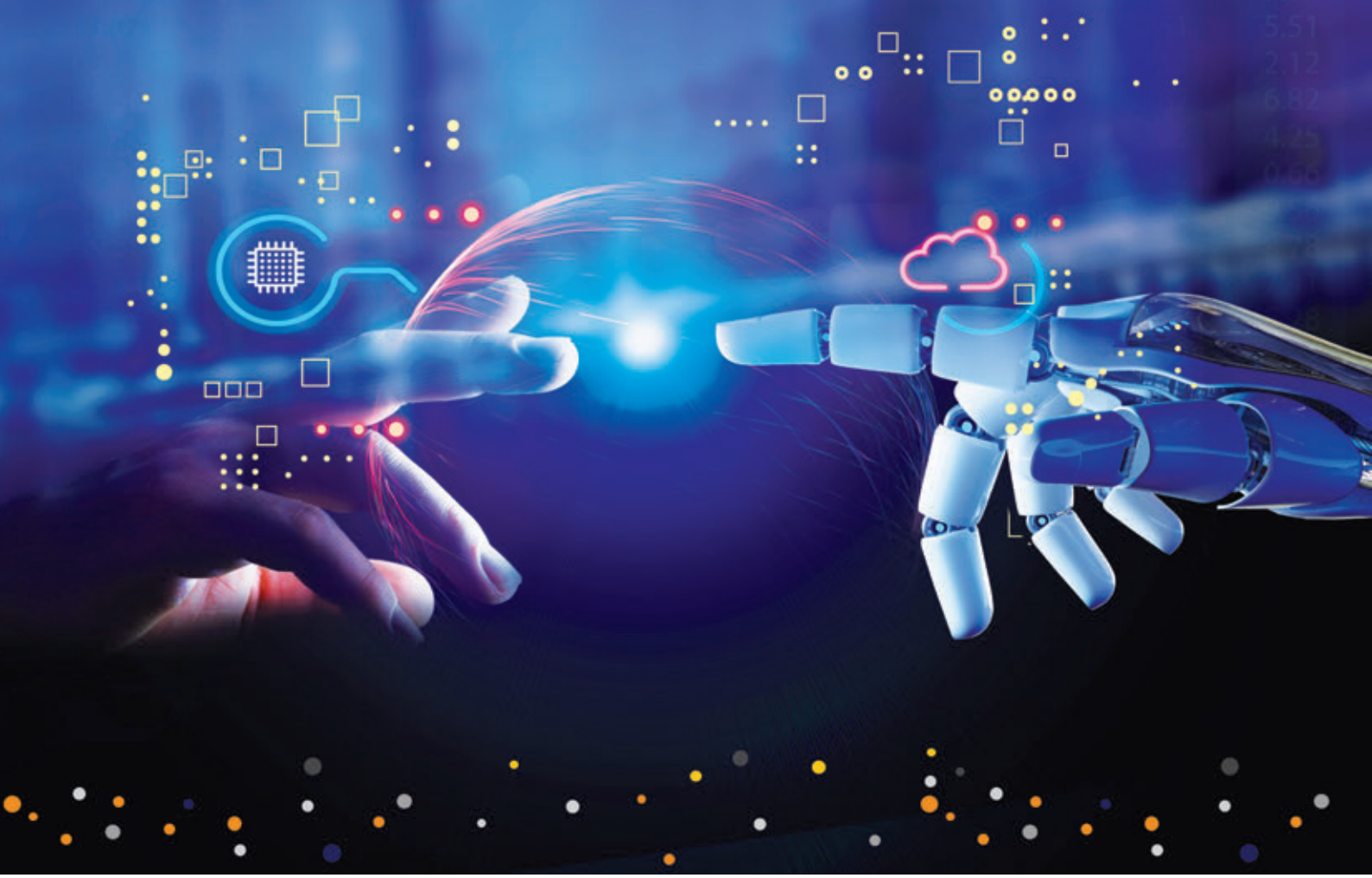
A key highlight of the conference was the NEXT100 awards, which provided a valuable exchange of ideas between NEXT100 winners and CIOs. The atmosphere was charged with nostalgia, especially for CIOs who had been previous NEXT100 recipients.

Of course, we also had our fair share of fun and entertainment throughout the event. While the pictures in this issue offer a glimpse into the action, emotions, camaraderie, and connections, they can't fully capture the insights and ideas shared.

Once again, we appreciate your time and extend my thanks on behalf of CIO&Leader and 9.9 Group for making this edition a success. I eagerly look forward to more impactful conversations with you. ■

FUTURE OF BUSINESS

At the **24th annual CIO&Leader Conference**, over **100 CIOs** from India's top companies gathered to create a strategic tech advisory for India Inc.



The 24th Annual CIO&Leader Conference, the flagship event of the premier CIO community platform, CIO&Leader, from 9.9 Group, was successfully held from 3 to 5 August 2023 at Jaypee Palace Hotel, Agra. The conference, known for its distinctive format every year, had the theme, Future of Business, highlighting the pivotal role of technology in driving business innovation, enhancing organizational efficiency, and fostering growth. The deliberations at the conference focused on creating a strategic tech advisory for CIOs of India Inc.

The conference brought together some of the most influential technologists of India who leveraged their energy, wisdom, insights, and ideas to deliberate and recommend the finest technology implementation tactics to help businesses move forward.

Over 106 CIOs and 89 future CIOs participated, demonstrating the conference's grandeur and soaring popularity over time. During the engaging conference, more than 40 sessions in a range of formats —including keynote addresses, speed dating, roundtables, CIO talks, panel discussions, and workshops — were held.

Day 1's enlightening discussions were followed by a delicious Mughalai cuisine at Jaypee Palace Hotel. On days 1 and 2 of the conference, delegates were treated to electrifying performances by the famous Dilli Gharana classical vocalist Fareed Hasan and the rocking Antriksh band.

AN EXCITING START

Day 1 of the event began with participating CIOs and delegates being welcomed by Vikas Gupta, Publisher of CIO&Leader and Director and co-founder of 9.9 Group. The major highlight of the day was the session by Dr. Toby Walsh, Chief Scientist at UNSW.ai, the AI Institute of UNSW Sydney, on the Future of AI. The audience was captivated by Dr. Walsh's in-depth and thought-provoking views. It underscored a compelling dual mandate: leveraging AI's potential while vigilantly navigating its ethical and data-driven challenges.

R Giridhar, Group Editor, 9.9 Group, and Jatinder Singh, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader unveiled the findings of the State of Technology Survey, which shed light on the priorities, challenges, and opportunities in the technology areas such as cloud, data, and analytics, AI and security.

Vikas Gupta, Publisher and Director of 9.9 Group, conducted a Speed Dating session after the opening. This one-of-a-kind format allowed delegates to quickly engage with other attendees to drive more meaningful conversations and deepen their connections across multiple exchanges.

The keynote talk by Akhilesh Tuteja, Partner, Global Cyber Security and TMT Industry Leader, KPMG India, on "Future of Security" was another key session that held everyone's attention.

The conference continued with the next activity- Ideas Café, a conversational format workshop that delves deeper into possibilities, challenges, and solutions in certain technology or application areas. Top CIOs explored creative solutions to 12 different technology-related problems during the session. These were-

1. Future of Infrastructure & AI, Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager & Chetan Hingu, Country Manager, Inside Sales, Commercial Strategy, AMD
2. Future Ready Data Centres, Duke Pramanick, Head - Enterprise Sales, Strategic Alliances & Business Development, CapitaLand Investment
3. Leveraging Intelligent Automation & AI for Improved Business Outcomes, Gnanavi Muthukana,

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Toby Walsh from UNSW.ai, **Akhilesh Tuteja** from KPMG, **Shireesh Joshi** from ONDC, **Meenakshi Burra** from HUL, **Dr. Pradeepta Mishra** from Data Safeguard and **Dr. Pramod Varma** from EkStep Foundation.

Regional Business Lead, Freshworks India

4. Disruptive Conversations: Reshaping Email & Collaboration, Pramod Sharda, CEO - India & Middle East, IceWarp
5. IT Sustainability – Mandate & Responsibility for Greener Future, Sanjeev Gupta, Director - Global Offering Management & Atul Bhatia, Director - Strategic Transformational and Consult Delivery, Kyndryl
6. Automation in Cyber Security, Murali Urs, SecOps Lead – India, ServiceNow
7. Cloud: The Digital Bridge for Transformation, Sushant Dubey, Business Head Digital Services & Jitender Durairajan, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify
8. Connected Infrastructure, Hari Nair, VP - Solution Engineering, Tata Communications
9. Evolving Trends: Core to Edge, Santosh Kulkarni, Country Head - Data Centre, Vertiv
10. Uncomplicate Your Cloud, Anant Deshmukh, Senior Manager - Solution Engineering, VMware
11. Governing Data for Digital Trust, CIO&Leader
12. Upskilling for the Future, CIO&Leader

The other keynote sessions of the day included Cost of Doing Nothing by Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager, AMD.

The sponsored sessions on the first day included:

- **IT Sustainability – Mandate & Responsibility for a Greener Future**
  Speaker: Sanjeev Gupta, Director - Global Offering Management & Atul Bhatia, Director - Strategic Transformational and Consult Delivery, Kyndryl
- **Modernizing Digital Infrastructure for the Future of Business**
  Speaker: Sushant Dubey, Business Head Digital Services & Jitender Durairajan, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify
- **Securing the Future: AI and Sustainability in Data Centers**
  Speaker: Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager, AMD & Chetan Hingu, Country Manager, Inside Sales, Commercial Strategy, AMD
- **Right-size your ITSM: Trim the Bloat and maximize ROI**
  Speaker: Prakash Bharath, Director, Freshworks India & Dhivakaran Thamilchelvan, Head - ITSM Business, Freshworks India

Day 1 ended with an amazing Mughlai Dinner and cocktails accompanied by a concert by the famous Dilli Gharana classical vocalist Fareed Hasan, and a Night viewing of the Taj Mahal on full moon night was the cherry on top.

Discussions continued on day 2.

BRAINSTORMING FOR THE FUTURE

The second day began with yoga session moderated by certified yoga instructor and founder of Bhav Yog-Bhavika Manglani. She guided participants through a rejuvenating and invigorating yoga practice, incorporating elements of Hatha Yoga and Vinyasa Flow.

Day 2 started with a welcome note by Sachin Mhashilkar, Executive Director of CIO&Leader, followed by the keynote session on Democratizing Digital Commerce: Embracing an Open Network by Shireesh Joshi, Chief Business Officer, Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC). Joshi discusses the new approach where businesses and consumers unite for an unparalleled shopping experience.

In another keynote session, Ramesh Narayanswamy, CTO of Aditya Birla Capital, shared his groundbreaking insights on "Technology, Team, and Trailblazers.

This was followed by a session on Reimagining HUL - The Journey to an Intelligent Enterprise by Meenakshi Burra, Chief Digital Officer, Hindustan Unilever (HUL). Burra talked about tech leads strategies and drives the company's transformation.

Following the keynote addresses, participants engaged in thematic sessions to explore and discuss significant business challenges and technology solutions to resolve them.

After the invigorating sessions, the eminent CIOs gathered to strategize on the Future of Business in CIO Workshop, which was the foundation for the conference's overall theme.

The last keynote session of day 2 was addressed by Dr. Pradeepta Mishra, Co-founder and Chief Architect, Data Safeguard on Transforming Business with Generative AI.

The discussion areas were:

1. **Creating and Maintaining Digital Trust**
2. **IoT:** Fusing the Physical and the Digital Realm
3. **Collaboration:** Dismantling Organizational Boundaries
4. **NextGen Connectivity:** IceWarp (Pramod Sharda, CEO - India & Middle East)
5. **Elevating User Experiences:** FreshWorks (Dhivakaran Thamilchelvan, Head - ITSM Business)
6. **Using AI to Transform the Business:** AMD (Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager)
7. **Automation: Driving Efficiency, Accuracy, and Reliability:** Sify (Sushant Dubey, Business Head Digital Services)
8. **Enabling Data-driven Decision-making:** Vertiv (Ajay Sharma, Director - Whitespace IRS Sales India)
9. **Digital Infrastructure for the Future of Business:** CapitaLand Investment (Head - Enterprise Sales & Business Development, Data Centre, India)
10. **Accelerating Business Innovation through App Modernization:** VMWare
11. **Leveraging Tech for the Sustainable Enterprise:** Kyndryl (Sanjeev Gupta, Director - Global Offering Management)
12. **Technology for Talent Management**

The sponsored sessions on the second day included:

1. **IT Sustainability – Mandate & Responsibility for a Greener Future**
   Speaker: Sanjeev Gupta, Director - Global Offering Management, and Atul Bhatia, Director - Strategic Transformational and Consult Delivery, Kyndryl
2. **Modernizing Digital Infrastructure for the Future of Business**
   Speaker: Sushant Dubey, Business Head Digital Services & Jitender Durairajan, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify
3. **Multi-cloud for Indian MNCs**
   Speaker: Anant Deshmukh, Senior Manager - Solution Engineering & Vikram Gudakesh, Senior Business Solutions Strategist, VMware
4. **Pitstop: Re-Evaluate Your Cloud Strategy**
   Speaker: Hari Nair, VP - Solution Engineering, Tata Communications, Tata Communications
5. **Improve Data-Driven Decision-making to Enhance Operational Efficiencies**
   Speaker: KV Veerapandian, Technical Sales Leader - Design & Manufacturing, Autodesk
6. **Securing the Future – AI and Sustainability in Data Centres**
   Speaker: Manmit Desai, Business Development Manager, AMD &

R Giridhar, Group Editor, 9.9 Group conducting FOB workshop.

Vidit Shankar, Regional Head - Enterprise, AMD

7. **Drive Action Across Your Entire Manufacturing Value Chain**
   Speaker: Rajiv Narula, Senior Manager - Solution Consulting & Murali Urs, Secops Lead – India, ServiceNow
8. **Future-ready Data Centres** Duke Pramanick, Head - Enterprise Sales & Business Development, Data Centre, India, CapitaLand Investment
9. **Breaking Barriers: Disruptive Innovations in Email & Collaboration** by Pramod Sharda, CEO - India & Middle East, IceWarp
10. **Sustainability Spotlight: Reshaping Future Data Centres** by Dr AS Prasad, General Manager - Integrated Rack Solutions - Asia & India, Vertiv
11. **Uncomplicate Your Cloud** by Hardik Doshi, Director - Sales (Conglomerates & Manufacturing) - India, VMware
12. **Leveraging Intelligent Automation & AI for Improved Business Outcomes**
    Speaker- Dhivakaran Thamilchelvan, Head - ITSM Business, Freshworks India

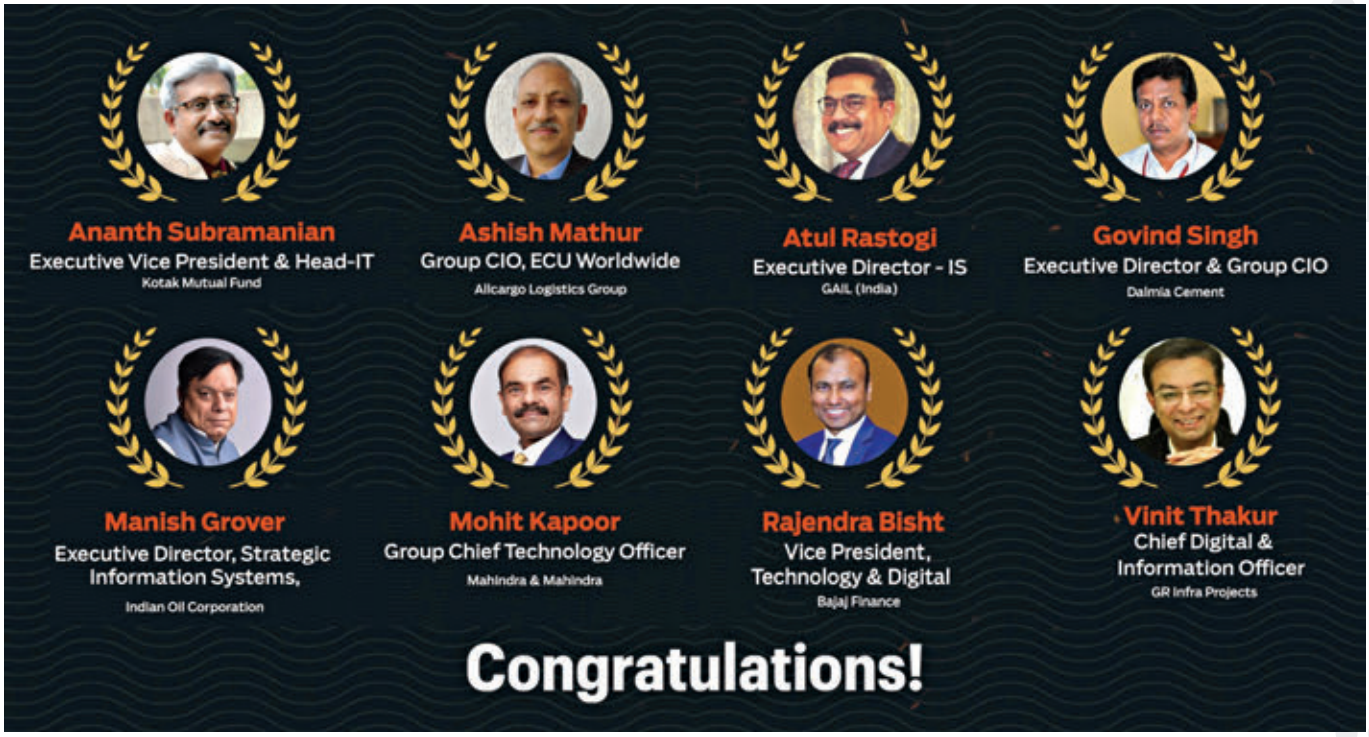
The panel discussions were held on the following topics:

- **Future of Cloud & Infrastructure**
  Moderator: Chetan Trivedi, CIO, Hindustan Zinc
  Panelists: * Satyavrat Mishra, Vice President & Head - Corporate IT, Godrej Industries * Pawan Kumar Roy, CIO, ArcelorMittal Global
- **Future of Data & Decision-making**
  Moderator: Ashish Kshetry, Vice President - IT, Asian Paints
  Panelists: * Rajeev Taneja, CIO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India * Rupesh Nain, CIO - Natural Resources, Adani Enterprises * Ashish Desai, CIO - Textiles, Grasim Industries * Atanu Pramanic, VP - IT & COO, RPSG Ventures
- **Future of Applications**
  Moderator: Amol Pai, Co-founder & CTO, FIO
  Panelists: * Mahesh Patil, Senior Vice President - IT, Axis Bank * Deepak Sharma, President & Chief Digital Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank * Rahul Chopra, Director & Head of Digital, PNB MetLife India Insurance Company * Abhijit Chakravarty, Senior Vice President - IT, HDFC Bank
- **Future of Cybersecurity**
  Moderator: Jayant Gupta, Executive Director - IS, Hindustan Petroleum Corp
  Panelists: * Gyan Pandey, Head - Digital & CDO, Voltas * Kishore Hirani, CIO, Amara Raja Batteries * Arvind Koul, Global Head - IT Infrastructure & Security, Uno Minda Group * Kiran Belsekar, Executive Vice President - CISO & IT Governance, Aegon Life
- **Future of AI in the Enterprise**
  Moderator: Manish Grover, Executive Director - Strategic IS, Indian Oil Corp
  Panelists: * Vininder Baweja, Chief Digital & Information Officer, Saint-Gobain India * Kaustubh Dabral, Global CIO, Dabur India * Vivek Zakarde, Senior Vice President & Head - Analytics, IndusInd Bank * Sanjay Rao, President, Group CIO & Head - Shared Services, SRF
- **Future of Communication & Collaboration**
  Moderator: CK Prasad, Executive Director, RailTel Corp of India
  Panelists: * Nirupmay Kumar, Executive Vice President - IT, Vodafone Idea * Vinod Bhat, CIO & Chief Ethics Counsellor, Tata SIA Airlines * Chitti Babu, Group CIO, Aurobindo Pharma * Debanjan Banerjee, Chief Information Officer, Pernod Ricard India
- **The Future of Customer Experience**
  Moderator- Pankaj Kankar, CTPO, Ajio Fashion & Lifestyle, Reliance Retail
  Panelists: Rajesh Uppal, Senior Executive Director, IT & HR, Maruti Suzuki, Ankit Goenka, SVP & Head Customer Experience, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co, Prakash Bharat, Director, Freshworks India

The editorial sessions conducted during the day were

- **Crafting a Technology Strategy** by Ajay Vernekar, CIO, SBI Life Insurance Company
- **Making Smarter Decisions with Data** by Vinod Gopinathan, Chief Information Officer, Ashok Leyland
- **Creating an Enabling Digital Culture** by Rajesh Uppal, Senior

↑ **Captive audience** engaged with interesting sessions.



The 5th CIO&Leader Samman Recipients.

Executive Director (HR & IT), Maruti Suzuki India

Distinguished CIOs participated in each session and shared their sharp perspectives on the challenges and topics.

HONORING THE VETERAN CIOS AND FUTURE CIOS

CIO&Leader Samman was one of the day's main highlights. Eight veteran CIOs were facilitated with CIO&Leader Samman, a unique honor CIO&Leader confers on veteran CIOs every year to acknowledge them for their contribution.

CIO&Leader Samman 2023 Recipients-

- Ananth Subramanian, Executive Vice President and Head IT at Kotak Mutual Fund
- Ashish Mathur, Group CIO at Allcargo Logistics Ltd & ECU Worldwide
- Atul Rastogi, Executive Director - BIS, GAIL (India) Limited
- Govind Singh, Executive Director & Group CIO Dalmia Bharat Limited
- Manish Grover, Executive Director - Strategic Information Systems, Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- Mohit Kapoor, Group CTO Mahindra & Mahindra Limited
- Rajendra Bisht, Vice President - Technology & Digital, Bajaj Finance Limited
- Vinit Thakur, Chief Digital & Information Officer, GR Infra Projects Limited

The three erstwhile CIOs to be members of the CIO&Leader Samman 2023 Jury Panel. They were:

- Deepak Agarwal, Former ED- IS, Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- Prashun Dutta, former CIO, Tata Power & Reliance Energy
- Vijay Sethi, former CIO, Hero MotoCorp

On Day 2, the future CIOs were recognized with NEXT100 awards. The Next100 Awards is a yearly award program started by IT Next magazine and the 9.9 Group to select 100 seasoned IT managers with the aptitude and determination to become CIOs.

Discussions continued on day 3.

TIME TO WRAP UP

On Day 3 and final day, Jatinder Singh, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader welcomed delegates following another keynote session by Dr. Pramod Varma, CTO - EkStep Foundation and former Chief Architect of Aadhaar & India Stack, on "The Future of Infrastructure" in conversation with R Giridhar, Group Editor, 9.9 Group. This session sheds light on the transformative potential of infrastructure advancements.

The CIOs presented their strategies, challenges, and ideas on transformative technologies, digital trends, and game-changing approaches that will shape the landscape of tomorrow on the Future of Business.

The 24th Annual CIO&Leader Conference ended with a Keynote session by Deepak Agarwal, Former ED (IS), Indian Oil NEXT100 2010 Winner, NEXT100 Jury, CIO&L Samman 2020 Recepient, CIO&L Samman Jury, who sheds light on the Evolution of the CIO. ■

DAY 1: THURSDAY, 3RD AUGUST, 2023
AS THE DAY UNFOLDED...

Delegates @ Registration desk
On the arrival of delegates, the registration desk fills up and boost our enthusiam. Delegates enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Welcome note
Vikas Gupta, Publisher and Director, CIO&Leader, 9.9 Group welcoming delegates

Future of Business
Prof. Toby Walsh, Chief Scientist, UNSW AI Institute, Sydney enlighten delegates about the future of AI during his keynote address.

CIO&Leader State of Technology Survey
R Giridhar, Group Editor, 9.9 Group & Jatinder Singh, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader unveiled key findings of the exclusive survey.

CIOs enhance their networking in a dynamic **Speed Dating session**

Cost of Doing Nothing
An invigorating session by Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager, AMD.

Akhilesh Tuteja, Partner at KPMG India on Future of Cybersecurity

Tech enthusiasts tapping on cutting-edge technologies sharing their expertise in the respective field.

Sanjeev Gupta, Director of Global Offering Management, and **Atul Bhatia**, Director of Strategic Transformational and Consult Delivery at Kyndryl unravel IT sustainability for Greener Future.

Engaging roundtable discussion on Modernized Digital Infrastructure for Enterprises future with **Sushant Dubey**, Business Head Digital Services & **Jitender Durairajan**, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify

Sanjiv Mehta, Country Manager, AMD & **Chetan Hingu**, Country Manager, Inside Sales, Commercial Strategy, AMD sheds light on AI Potential and Datacenters Sustainability in a roundtable session.

↑ Roundtable discussion on optimizing ITSM with **Prakash Bharath**, Director, Freshworks India & **Dhivakaran Thamilchelvan**, Head - ITSM Business, Freshworks India

↖ Delegates enjoy an enchanting evening of fine dining, cocktails, and live music by renowned artist **Fareed Hasan from Dilli Gharana.**

↑ Day 1 ended with admiring the ethernal charm of **Taj Mahal on full moonlight**.

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 4TH AUGUST, 2023

POWER-PACKED SESSIONS

↗ Embracing inner peace with a **rejuvenating yoga session** led by Yoga instructor **Bhavika Manglani**

On day 2, Autodesk talks about how to improve data-driven decision-making during a breakfast session with the speaker **KV Veerapandian**, Technical Sales Leader - Design & Manufacturing, Autodesk and moderated by **Sachin Mhashilkar**, Executive Director, CIO&Leader

A compelling breakfast Session focused on unlocking your digital bridge for transformation led by **Sushant Dubey**, Business Head Digital Services & **Jitender Durairajan**, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify and moderated by **R Giridhar,** Group Editor, 9.9 Group

AMD embark on an enlightening journey exploring the fusion of AI and sustainability in data centers on breakfast session led by **Manmit Desai**, Business Development Manager, AMD & **Vidit Shankar**, Regional Head - Enterprise and moderated by **Jatinder Singh**, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader

ServiceNow discusses on actions to streamline the manufacturing processes on breakfast session led by **Rajiv Narula**, Senior Manager - Solution Consulting & **Murali Urs**, SecOps Lead – India, ServiceNow and moderated by **Balaka Baruah**, Consulting Editor, CIO&Leader

Welcome Note
Sachin Mhashilkar, Executive Director, CIO&Leader welcome delegates on Day 2

Shireesh Joshi, Chief Business Officer, Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) during his keynote session on democratizing digital commerce.

A session by **Ramesh Narayanaswamy**, CTO, Aditya Birla Capital

Meenakshi Burra, Chief Digital Officer of HUL, unravels the tech strategies and HUL's transformation journey.

Shaping a future-ready business at our exclusive FOB Workshop.

↗ Panel discussion on the future of cloud and infrastructure
Moderator: **Chetan Trivedi**, CIO, Hindustan Zinc
Panelist: ●**Satyavrat Mishra**, Vice President & Head - Corporate IT, Godrej Industries
● **Pawan Kumar Roy**, CIO, ArcelorMittal Global

← Thought-provoking panel discussion on the Future of Data and decision-making.
Moderator: **Ashish Kshetry**, Vice President - IT, Asian Paints
Panelists: ●**Rajeev Taneja**, CIO, Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India, ●**Rupesh Nain**, CIO - Natural Resources, Adani Enterprises, ●**Ashish Desai**, CIO - Textiles, Grasim Industries, ●**Atanu Pramanic**, VP - IT & COO, RPSG Ventures

Panel discussion on the 'Future of Applications' with Moderator: **Amol Pai**, Co-founder & CTO, FIO
Panelists: •**Mahesh Patil**, Senior Vice President - IT, Axis Bank •**Deepak Sharma**, President & Chief Digital Officer, Kotak Mahindra Bank •**Rahul Chopra**, Director & Head of Digital, PNB MetLife India Insurance Company •**Abhijit Chakravarty**, Senior Vice President - IT, HDFC Bank

Ajay Vernekar, CIO of SBI Life Insurance Company, delves into the art of future-proofing the business through innovative technology solutions in CIO Talk session.

Vinod Gopinathan, Chief Information Officer, Ashok Leyland talks about using cloud technologies to improve customer experience in CIO Talk session.

Rajesh Uppal, Senior Executive Director (HR & IT), Maruti Suzuki India advice on enabling cultural change and making digital transformation projects successful in CIO Talk session.

Panel Discussion on uncovering the latest strategies and technologies to protect organization from cyber threats in today's digital world. Moderator: **Jatinder Singh**, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader. Panelists: ●**Gyan Pandey**, Head - Digital & CDO, Voltas ●**Kishore Hirani**, CIO, Amara Raja Batteries ●**Arvind Koul**, Global Head - IT Infrastructure & Security, Uno Minda Group ●**Kiran Belsekar**, Executive Vice President - CISO & IT Governance, Aegon Life

Insightful panel discussion on AI's transformative impact, its challenges, and its potential to shape the future. Moderator: **Manish Grover**, Executive Director - Strategic IS, Indian Oil Corp. Panelists: ●**Vininder Baweja**, Chief Digital & Information Officer, Saint-Gobain India ●**Kaustubh Dabral**, Global CIO, Dabur India ●**Vivek Zakarde**, Senior Vice President & Head - Analytics, IndusInd Bank ●**Sanjay Rao**, President, Group CIO & Head - Shared Services, SRF

Panel Discussion on Future of communication & collaboration. Moderator: **CK Prasad**, Executive Director, RailTel Corp of India. Panelists: **Nirupmay Kumar**, Executive Vice President - IT, Vodafone Idea **Vinod Bhat**, CIO & Chief Ethics Counsellor, Tata SIA Airlines **Chitti Babu**, Group CIO , Aurobindo Pharma **Debanjan Banerjee**, Chief Information Officer , Pernod Ricard India

Keynote session with **Dr. Pradeepta Mishra**, Co-Founder and Chief Architect, Data Safeguard unveils on game-changing potentials of Generative AI.

Dhivakaran Thamilchelvan, Head - ITSM Business, Freshworks India on leveraging Intelligent Automation & AI for Improved Business Outcomes

Industry pioneers sheds light on the future of customer experience in panel discussion. Moderator- **Pankaj Kankar**, CTPO, Ajio Fashion & Lifestyle, Reliance Retail. Panelists: **Rajesh Uppal**, Senior Executive Director, IT & HR, Maruti Suzuki, **Ankit Goenka**, SVP & Head Customer Experience, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co, **Prakash Bharat**, Director, Freshworks India

Workshop to explore sustainable practices and innovations that can make a positive impact on the environment. Moderator: **Sachin Mhashilkar,** Executive Director, CIO&Leader. Speaker: **Sanjeev Gupta**, Director - Global Offering Management and **Atul Bhatia**, Director - Strategic Transformational and Consult Delivery, Kyndryl

Experiencing the power of innovation, agility, and seamless connectivity that enables business to new heights in Wine & Cheese Session. Moderator: **R Giridhar**, Group Editor, 9.9 Group Speaker: **Sushant Dubey**, Business Head Digital Services & **Jitender Durairajan**, Head – Cloud Engineering, Sify

↗ **Unlocking the secrets to harnessing the full potential of Multi-cloud solutions in Wine & Cheese Session.**
Moderator: **Jatinder SIngh**, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader. Speaker: **Anant Deshmukh**, Senior Manager - Solution Engineering & **Vikram Gudakesh**, Senior Business Solutions Strategist, VMware

Discussion on the latest trends, best practices, and realignments to optimize cloud journey in Wine & Cheese Session. Moderator: **Balaka Baruah**, Consulting Editor of CIO&Leader. Speaker: **Hari Nair**, VP - Solution Engineering, Tata Communications

Glimpses from NEXT100 Awards Ceremony

↗ **NEXT100 2023 Awardees**

← **NEXT100 Jury Felicitation**

CIO&Leader Samman Felicitation Ceremony

↑ **R Giridhar,** Group Editor, 9.9 Group felicitating CIO&Leader Samman Jury member, **Deepak Agarwal,** former ED-IS, Indian Oil Corporation.

Deepak Agarwal felicitating **Atul Rastogi,** Executive Editor (BIS), GAIL (India) Limited with CIO&Leader Samman

Deepak Agarwal felicitating **Manish Grover,** Executive Director of Strategic Information Systems of Indian Oil Corporation Limited with CIO&Leader Samman

CIO&Leader Samman 2023 Recipients with **Deepak Agarwal,** Former ED-IS, Indian Oil Corporation Limited

A captivated audience: Delegates engrossed in engaging sessions on day 2 of the conference.

Vote of Thanks to Partners by Sachin Mhashilkar, Executive Director, CIO&Leader

Day 2 ended with Gala Dinner and Cocktails and amazing performance by **Antariksh Band**

The **Antariksh band** concert made the Conference attendees grove on their performance

DAY 3: SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST, 2023

END ON THE HIGH NOTE

DAY 3, Yoga Session for soul-nourshing experience with **Bhavika Manglani**

↑ **Welcome Note: Jatinder Singh**, Executive Editor, CIO&Leader

↑ **Q&A** with **Dr. Pramod Varma,** CTO - EkStep Foundation & Former Chief Architect of Aadhaar & India Stack on **"The Future of Infrastructure"**

Presentation on Future of Business

↑ **CIO Delegates** giving presentation on **Future of Business** they made at Idea's Cafe session

↗ Witnessing engaging sessions, networking, music, strategic dialogues and fully enthralled delegates at the conference.

Exhibition Stalls

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PRESENTS

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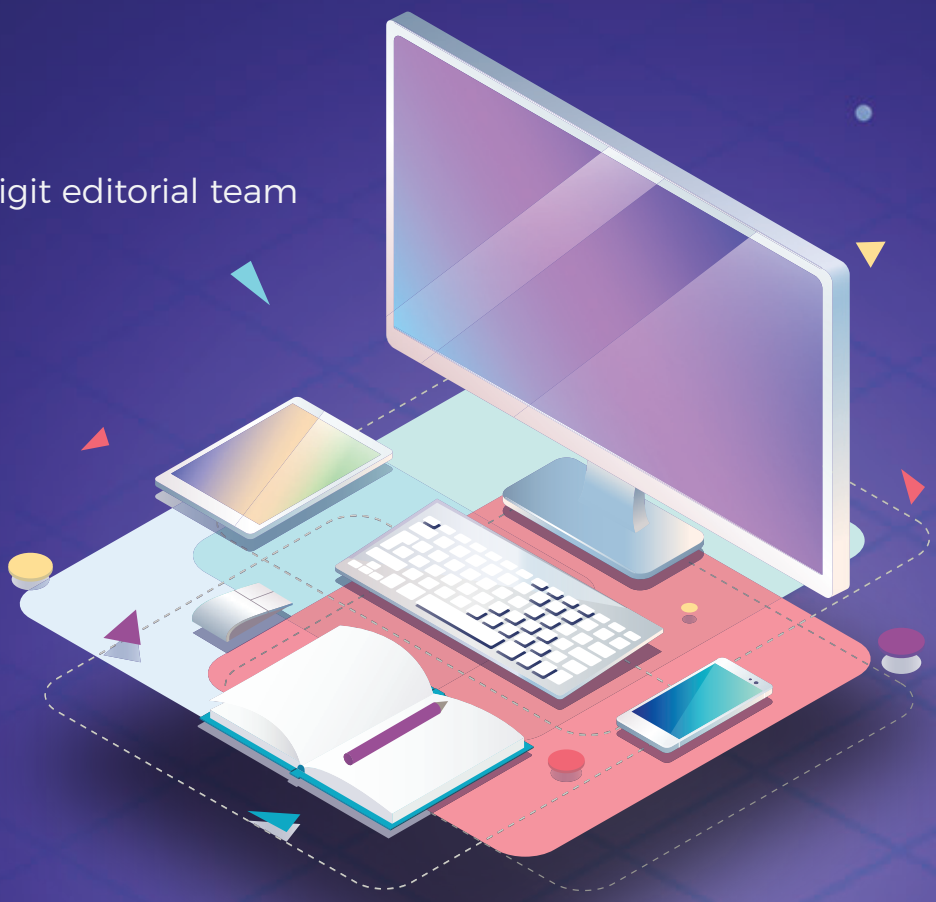

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