

LEADERS UNPLUGGED



Sunil Mathur

At the West Kconnect show, IEEMA also organised 'Leaders Unplugged' under its Young @ IEEMA initiative. The programme served as an engagement platform for second and third generation entrepreneurs from the industry.

In his keynote address, **Sunil Mathur, Managing Director & CEO, Siemens India Ltd**, spoke on the global context; weaponisation of technology and critical resources; the major global dynamic – the boom of artificial intelligence (AI) and data centres; global trends such as climate change, technological disruption (in not just AI, but manufacturing, power, logistics, transportation, ports), demographics, social insecurity, cyber security, sustainability and regulations around it, among others.

Coming to India, Mathur highlighted, "Nearly 70 percent of India is yet to be built – and that



Members of Young @ IEEMA presenting a memento to Sunil Mathur



Young @ IEEMA 'Leaders Unplugged' Panel Session with Dr. Rahul Mirchandani and Sanjaya Singhal



Dr. Rahul Mirchandani



Sanjaya Singhal

represents enormous opportunity before the young leaders of today." Speaking to the young leaders present, he emphasised, "How you build this 70 percent will now depend on you." He noted that India's economy is booming, and it has just started, stating that innovation and artificial intelligence (AI) will be critical for India to maintain its leadership in the world. He added that digitalisation will result in a boom in data and data centres. "It means providing resilient, efficient, and secure energy systems in the supply chain. It also means green leadership – we will need to do this in a sustainable manner."

Highlighting the critical role of manufacturing in India's economy, Mathur said, "Manufacturing growth will be the future of India as we cannot rely only on agriculture. We will have to focus on shifting manufacturing from 15 percent GDP to 25 percent GDP. And, capex is required to deliver the kind of GDP required. India will need a growth rate

of 8-10 percent GDP for achieving Viksit Bharat." He added that technology will completely change the landscape of way things were done. And, what it means for leaders is that innovation and technology will have to be at the forefront of everything we do. He emphasised that India will need to spend more of its GDP on R&D, stay ahead of the curve in adopting technology, stay ahead in what will impact customers, and change go-to market strategies. He also highlighted the importance of upskilling and cross-skilling.

Another highlight of 'Leaders Unplugged' was an engaging interaction under the Young @ IEEMA initiative featuring **Dr. Rahul Mirchandani, Chairman & Managing Director, Aries Agro Limited** and **Sanjaya Singhal, Founder & Chairman, Secure Meters**. The session brought forward sharp industry insights, practical business perspectives, and future-focused thinking that resonated strongly with the young audience.

