



## **Panel discussion on The Evolution of Logistics in the AI Era: Unlocking Competitive Advantage beyond Cost**

The Department of MBA-PS: Transportation and Logistics Management, IISWBM, proudly hosted Eruditorum: The Supply Chain Conclave, a distinguished panel discussion on “The Evolution of Logistics in the AI Era: Unlocking Competitive Advantage Beyond Cost.” Against the backdrop of rapid technological advancement, post-pandemic resilience, and evolving global supply chains, the conclave created a powerful platform for dialogue between academia and industry on the future of supply chain management.

We sincerely thank our esteemed panellists for their time and invaluable insights.

Mr. Anirban Sanyal, Senior General Manager, Century Ply, highlighted the resilience of supply chains over the past five years, emphasizing that while AI investments are accelerating, the fundamentals of physical manufacturing and material movement remain unchanged. He stressed the importance of data acumen, strong analytical foundations, and structured approaches such as DDMRP and TOC, reassuring students that roles will evolve—but fundamentals endure.

Mr. Dipanjan Roy, Head – Logistics, Exide Industries (CML), emphasized that real-time data tools create value only when paired with sound interpretation and action. Reflecting on logistics’ critical role during COVID, he also underscored sustainability, ESG compliance, and circular economy practices, demonstrating how value today extends well beyond cost efficiency.

Mr. Sandeep Das, Vice President, UltraTech Cement Ltd., positioned AI as a data enabler, while reinforcing that human judgment remains indispensable in uncertain and unorthodox scenarios. Drawing from practical challenges in trade-offs, sourcing, and safety, he reminded students that experience and intuition matter as much as analytics.

Mr. Puskar Mukherjee, Senior Vice President & Head of Supply Chain, Emami Agrotech Ltd., offered a forward-looking perspective on Industry 5.0, highlighting how predictive and

prescriptive analytics, scenario planning, and automation can transform logistics from a cost centre into a strategic value driver, while urging professionals to remain agile and tech-savvy.

We also thank the Moderator, Mr. Dhrubo Mukherjee, whose thoughtfully curated, strategic questions ensured depth, clarity, and a seamless flow of discussion across diverse viewpoints.

The conclave concluded on a reflective note with Ms. Jayanti De, who joined online and added valuable perspectives that brought thoughtful closure to the session.

For the MBA-PS (Transportation & Logistics Management) students, Eruditorum was a truly enriching learning experience, reinforcing the importance of fundamentals, responsible technology adoption, and strategic thinking for future-ready supply chain leadership.

As beautifully said,

***“Technology may change the tools we use, but wisdom lies in how we choose to use them.”***

