

EVENT REPORT

## IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society Hyderabad Section Chapter

Inauguration Ceremony & Distinguished Technical Talk  
02 August 2026 | Hotel The Plaza, Begumpet, Hyderabad, India

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Event                 | Inauguration Ceremony & Distinguished Technical Talk                                                                                      |
| Organised by          | IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society — Hyderabad Section Chapter                                                                    |
| In association with   | IEEE Hyderabad Section                                                                                                                    |
| Date                  | Sunday, 02 August 2026                                                                                                                    |
| Time                  | 10:00 AM – 12:50 PM (followed by lunch and networking)                                                                                    |
| Venue                 | Hotel The Plaza, Begumpet, Hyderabad, Telangana, India                                                                                    |
| Format                | In-person                                                                                                                                 |
| Distinguished Speaker | Dr. Supriya Kummamuru, PhD<br>Strategy, Innovation & Systems Thinking Leader<br>Former TCS Executive   Management Consultant   Researcher |
| Talk Title            | “Systems Thinking in the Age of AI: Why Cybernetics Matters Now”                                                                          |
| Attendance            | 46 participants in total (38 IEEE members, 8 invited guests)                                                                              |

### 1. Introduction

The IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC) Society Hyderabad Section Chapter was formally inaugurated on Sunday, 02 August 2026 at Hotel The Plaza, Begumpet, Hyderabad. The inauguration marked the establishment of a dedicated platform in the Hyderabad Section for the SMC Society's core technical areas — systems science and engineering, human-machine systems, and cybernetics.

The inaugural ceremony was combined with a Distinguished Technical Talk delivered by Dr. Supriya Kummamuru on “Systems Thinking in the Age of AI: Why Cybernetics Matters Now”, setting the intellectual direction for the newly formed Chapter. The programme brought together leaders of the IEEE Hyderabad Section, the Chapter's Executive Committee, academicians, industry practitioners and student members.

### 2. Event Poster



Figure 1: Official event poster for the Inauguration & Distinguished Technical Talk.

### 3. Objectives of the Event

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- To formally inaugurate the IEEE SMC Society Hyderabad Section Chapter under the aegis of the IEEE Hyderabad Section.
- To introduce the mission, technical scope and activity roadmap of the SMC Society to the local IEEE community.
- To create awareness of SMC Society membership benefits, funding opportunities, conferences and publication avenues.
- To host a Distinguished Technical Talk connecting classical cybernetics and systems thinking to contemporary developments in artificial intelligence.
- To provide a networking forum for academia and industry professionals working in systems engineering, human-machine interaction and intelligent systems.

### 4. Proceedings of the Event

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#### 4.1 Registration and Networking

The programme commenced at 10:00 AM with registration, networking and tea. The event recorded a total attendance of 46 participants, comprising 38 IEEE members and 8 invited guests, drawn from academic institutions and industry organisations across Hyderabad. The Registration Team coordinated attendance records and the distribution of participant materials.

#### 4.2 Inaugural Session

The Master of Ceremonies opened the session with welcome remarks and housekeeping announcements, followed by the invitation of dignitaries to the dais. The dignitaries were welcomed with plant saplings, an eco-conscious gesture in place of conventional bouquets, reflecting the Chapter's commitment to sustainability.

The following dignitaries graced the dais:

- **Mr. MGPL Narayana** — Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section
- **Mr. Bala Prasad Peddigari** — Vice Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section
- **Mr. N. Venkatesh** — Secretary, IEEE Hyderabad Section
- **Mr. Sreenivas Jasti** — Treasurer, IEEE Hyderabad Section
- **Dr. Y. Vijayalata** — Chair, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter
- **Dr. Supriya Kummamuru** — Distinguished Speaker

Dr. Y. Vijayalata, Chair of the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter, delivered the Welcome Address. She outlined the journey leading to the formation of the Chapter, thanked the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership and the founding members for their support, and presented the Chapter's vision of building a vibrant technical community around systems science, human-machine systems and cybernetics in the region.

Addresses were then delivered by the IEEE Hyderabad Section office bearers. Mr. Sreenivas Jasti (Treasurer) and Mr. N. Venkatesh (Secretary) congratulated the Chapter team and highlighted the Section's support mechanisms for new Chapters. Mr. Bala Prasad Peddigari (Vice Chair) spoke on the growing relevance of systems-level thinking in the technology industry, and Mr. MGPL Narayana (Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section) formally endorsed the Chapter, encouraging it to pursue high-quality technical activities, student engagement and industry collaboration.

#### 4.3 Formal Inauguration

Following a formal introduction of the distinguished guest by the Master of Ceremonies, the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter was inaugurated through the unveiling of a commemorative photo frame by all the dignitaries present. The inauguration was followed by a group photograph marking the formal establishment of the Chapter.

#### 4.4 Overview of the SMC Society and Funding Opportunities

Dr. Gollapudi Rameshchandra, Treasurer of the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter, presented an overview of the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society. The session covered the Society's three core technical pillars — systems science and engineering, human-machine systems, and cybernetics — along with its flagship conferences, transactions and magazines. He also detailed the funding and support opportunities available to Chapters through the Society, including chapter activity grants, distinguished lecturer programmes, student activity support and conference sponsorship avenues, and encouraged attendees to take up SMC Society membership.

#### 4.5 Distinguished Technical Talk

Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru, Vice Chair of the Chapter, introduced the invited speaker. Dr. Supriya Kummamuru, PhD — a Strategy, Innovation and Systems Thinking Leader, former TCS executive, management consultant and researcher — then delivered the Distinguished Technical Talk titled “Systems Thinking in the Age of AI: Why Cybernetics Matters Now”.

The talk examined why the foundational ideas of cybernetics have become newly relevant at a time when artificial intelligence is being embedded into large socio-technical systems. Key themes addressed during the session included:

- The origins of cybernetics and systems thinking, and their continuing explanatory power for complex, interconnected systems.
- Feedback loops, control and regulation as the organising principles behind both natural and engineered intelligent systems.
- The distinction between optimising components in isolation and designing for whole-system behaviour and emergent outcomes.
- Human-machine collaboration and the role of the human in the loop as AI systems take on greater decision-making responsibility.
- Unintended consequences, second-order effects and system dynamics arising from large-scale AI deployment.
- Practical implications for engineers, researchers and organisational leaders designing responsible and resilient AI-enabled systems.

The talk drew on the speaker's experience across research, consulting and large-scale industry transformation, and was well received by the audience for connecting theoretical foundations with practical organisational realities.

#### 4.6 Interactive Question & Answer Session

An interactive Q&A session moderated by Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru followed the talk. Participants raised questions on the applicability of systems thinking in AI product design, governance and accountability in autonomous systems, the role of feedback mechanisms in machine learning pipelines, and how early-career engineers and researchers can build a systems perspective in their work. The speaker responded with practical examples drawn from her consulting and research experience.

#### 4.7 Felicitation and Vote of Thanks

The distinguished speaker was felicitated with a memento by the IEEE Hyderabad Section leaders and the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Executive Committee in recognition of her contribution to the inaugural programme. Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru delivered the Vote of Thanks, acknowledging the speaker, the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership, the Executive Committee, the organising volunteers and all participants.

The programme concluded with photography sessions — the IEEE Hyderabad Section Executive Committee with Dr. Supriya Kummamuru, and the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Executive Committee with the Section leaders — followed by a group photograph with all participants. The event closed with lunch and networking from 12:50 PM onwards.

## 5. Photo Gallery



Figure 2: Dignitaries on the dais during the inaugural session — Dr. Y. Vijayalata, Mr. MGPL Narayana and the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership.



Figure 3: Welcome of the Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Supriya Kummamuru, on the dais.



Figure 4: Participants — IEEE members, academicians and industry professionals — during the Distinguished Technical Talk.



Figure 5: Felicitation of Dr. Supriya Kummamuru by the IEEE Hyderabad Section leaders and the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Executive Committee.



Figure 6: The Distinguished Speaker with the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership and the SMC Chapter Executive Committee following the felicitation.

## 6. Organising Committee

### 6.1 IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter — Executive Committee

| Name                        | Position   |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Dr. Y. Vijayalata           | Chair      |
| Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru     | Vice Chair |
| Mr. Sudeep Banerjee Chopra  | Secretary  |
| Dr. Gollapudi Rameshchandra | Treasurer  |

## 6.2 IEEE Hyderabad Section Leadership

| Name                      | Position   |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Mr. MGPL Narayana         | Chair      |
| Mr. Bala Prasad Peddigari | Vice Chair |
| Mr. N. Venkatesh          | Secretary  |
| Mr. Sreenivas Jasti       | Treasurer  |

## 7. Programme Schedule

The detailed programme executed on the day is presented below.

| Time                | Activity                                                                                       | Lead / Speaker                                                             |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 – 10:30 AM    | Registration, Networking & Tea                                                                 | Registration Team                                                          |
| 10:30 – 10:32 AM    | Welcome, Opening Remarks & Housekeeping Announcements                                          | Master of Ceremonies                                                       |
| 10:32 – 10:35 AM    | Invitation of Dignitaries to the Dais                                                          | Master of Ceremonies                                                       |
| 10:35 – 10:39 AM    | Welcome of Dignitaries with Plant Saplings                                                     | Organizing Team                                                            |
| 10:39 – 10:44 AM    | Welcome Address                                                                                | Dr. Y. Vijayalata, Chair, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter               |
| 10:44 – 10:49 AM    | Address by IEEE Hyderabad Section Treasurer                                                    | Mr. Sreenivas Jasti                                                        |
| 10:49 – 10:54 AM    | Address by IEEE Hyderabad Section Secretary                                                    | Mr. N. Venkatesh                                                           |
| 10:54 – 10:59 AM    | Address by IEEE Hyderabad Section Vice Chair                                                   | Mr. Bala Prasad Peddigari                                                  |
| 10:59 – 11:04 AM    | Address by IEEE Hyderabad Section Chair                                                        | Mr. MGPL Narayana                                                          |
| 11:04 – 11:07 AM    | Formal Introduction of the Distinguished Guest                                                 | Master of Ceremonies                                                       |
| 11:07 – 11:13 AM    | Inauguration of the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter (Commemorative Photo Frame Unveiling)   | All Dignitaries                                                            |
| 11:13 – 11:18 AM    | Inauguration Group Photograph                                                                  | All Dignitaries                                                            |
| 11:18 – 11:38 AM    | Objectives of IEEE SMC Society & Funding Opportunities                                         | Dr. Gollapudi Rameshchandra, Treasurer, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter |
| 11:38 – 11:43 AM    | Introduction of the Invited Speaker                                                            | Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru, Vice Chair, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter    |
| 11:43 AM – 12:23 PM | Distinguished Technical Talk: “Systems Thinking in the Age of AI: Why Cybernetics Matters Now” | Dr. Supriya Kummamuru, PhD                                                 |
| 12:23 – 12:30 PM    | Interactive Question & Answer Session                                                          | Moderated by Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru                                       |
| 12:30 – 12:35 PM    | Felicitation of the Distinguished Speaker                                                      | IEEE Hyderabad Section Leaders & IEEE SMC Executive Committee              |
| 12:35 – 12:40 PM    | Vote of Thanks                                                                                 | Dr. Muni Sekhar Velpuru                                                    |
| 12:40 – 12:47 PM    | Photography Session                                                                            | Organizing Team                                                            |
| 12:47 – 12:50 PM    | Group Photograph with All Participants                                                         | All Attendees                                                              |
| 12:50 PM onwards    | Lunch & Networking                                                                             | All Participants                                                           |

## 8. Outcomes

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- The IEEE SMC Society Hyderabad Section Chapter was formally inaugurated with the endorsement and participation of the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership.
- The Chapter's Executive Committee was introduced to the local IEEE community, establishing a clear point of contact for future SMC activities in the region.
- Attendees were informed of SMC Society membership benefits, technical scope, publication avenues and Chapter funding opportunities.
- A high-quality Distinguished Technical Talk was delivered, establishing the Chapter's technical positioning at the intersection of cybernetics, systems thinking and artificial intelligence.
- A networking forum was created among academic institutions, industry organisations and student members with shared interests in systems and cybernetics.
- Several attendees expressed interest in SMC Society membership and in contributing to forthcoming Chapter activities.

## 9. Way Forward

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Building on the momentum of the inauguration, the IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter proposes the following activities for the coming year:

- A regular series of technical talks and webinars featuring SMC Distinguished Lecturers and regional experts.
- Hands-on workshops and tutorials on systems engineering, human-machine systems and intelligent systems.
- Student Branch Chapter formation drives across engineering institutions in the Hyderabad Section.
- Industry–academia roundtables on responsible AI, systems design and cyber-physical systems.
- Membership development initiatives to grow SMC Society membership within the Section.
- Exploration of a regional technical symposium or conference in collaboration with the SMC Society.

## 10. Acknowledgements

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The IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter gratefully acknowledges the guidance and support of the IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society and the IEEE Hyderabad Section in establishing the Chapter. Sincere thanks are extended to Dr. Supriya Kumamuru for delivering the Distinguished Technical Talk, to the IEEE Hyderabad Section leadership for their presence and encouragement, and to the volunteers and participants whose enthusiasm made the inaugural programme a success.

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### Report prepared by:

Mr. Sudeep Banerjee Chopra

*Secretary, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter*

*On behalf of the Executive Committee, IEEE SMC Hyderabad Section Chapter*

Date of report: 15 August 2026