



FDI CONVOCATION 2025

Hon'ble President of India *Smt. Droupadi Murmu* Confers Degrees at a Landmark Ceremony



FDI hosted its Convocation 2025 on 1st December 2025 at Bhim Hall, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath, New Delhi for 547 graduating students from eight campuses—Noida, Chennai, Kolkata, Rohtak, Guna, Ankleshwar, Chandigarh and Patna.

The grand event was graced by Her Excellency, the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Chief Guest; Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and Guest of Honour; Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

On behalf of FDDI, Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI welcomed the Chief Guest and all the other delegates during which Col. Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI; Ms. Pragya Singh, IRS, Executive Director (ED) - FDDI, Banur campus, Ms. Manju Maan, ED, FDDI Noida/Guna; Ms. Sarita Duhan, ED - FDDI, Rohtak campus, Mr. Neeraj Kumar, ED - FDDI,

Kolkata/Patna campus and the staff & students were also present. Ms. Nidhi Kesarwani, IAS, Joint Secretary, DPIIT; Mr. Motilal Sethi, Managing Director, M/s. Saroj International, President – Indian Leather Garments Association (ILGA), Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Director, M/s. Sandeep Rubber, President - Indian Footwear Components Manufacturers Association (IFCOMA), industry leaders, academic representatives,

FDDI alumni, proud parents and persons from the print & electronic media also witnessed the institution's moment of pride.

The Convocation Ceremony commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest along with other distinguished dignitaries, symbolizing an auspicious beginning. This was followed by the administration of the Graduate Oath by the Managing Director, FDDI, during which students pledged their commitment to professionalism, responsibility, and excellence. The Managing Director then delivered the Welcome Address, acknowledging the gracious presence of the Hon'ble President of India, Hon'ble Ministers, distinguished guests, industry leaders, faculty members, proud parents, and the graduating students.

The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu addressed the august gathering by conferring degrees and medals on meritorious students and recalling that FDDI was declared an Institution of National Importance in 2017, reaffirming its role in nurturing specialised talent for the footwear, leather, fashion and retail sectors.

He emphasised that FDDI graduates are uniquely positioned to connect village artisans, factory engineers and discerning consumers seeking high-quality products. Shri Goyal outlined five guiding principles for the graduating batch as they begin their professional journeys. First, he urged them to connect deeply with villages and grassroots innovation, citing the example of biodegradable leather alternatives made using banana fibre showcased at Bharat Pradarshani. Second, he encouraged exploring blue-ocean opportunities by identifying untapped global niches such as diabetic-friendly and ergonomically designed footwear. Third, he called upon students to help move India up the global value chain by creating premium, durable and sustainably crafted products. Fourth, he emphasised the need to uphold

Highlighting India's position as the world's second-largest producer and consumer of footwear, President remarked that as FDDI graduates advance in their careers and establish new ventures, the nation's exports will rise, employment will strengthen and Atmanirbharta will gain decisive momentum.

The Hon'ble President further emphasised that modern design extends far beyond aesthetics, serving as a tool to solve problems, enhance comfort and safety, conserve resources and improve quality of life.

Encouraging students to remain life-long learners committed to integrity and environmental responsibility,

President praised FDDI's significant contribution to livelihood generation, noting that the footwear and leather sectors create dignified opportunities for youth, women and first-generation learners while playing a vital role in India's economic growth.

Delivering the inspiring address, the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, Shri Piyush Goyal, congratulated the graduating students and highlighted their pivotal role in linking India's traditional strengths with modern industry demands.

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uncompromising ethics, safety and quality as the bedrock of India's design and manufacturing ecosystem.

Finally, he appealed to them to embrace Swadeshi and contribute to Atmanirbharta, noting that India's journey toward becoming a \$30 trillion economy by 2047 will be powered by domestic talent and innovation.



Shri Jitin Prasada, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Government of India delivering the convocation address commended FDDI's expanding national footprint across its 12 campuses and highlighted the institute's unique position at the convergence of design, technology, manufacturing and retail. He noted that FDDI not only learns from industry but also actively contributes to elevating it, helping the sector move up the value chain through skilled talent, innovation and strong industry-academia collaboration.

During the convocation, students from FDDI's displayed their creative and academic excellence through an impressive exhibition of presentations that highlighted their final-year capstone projects, innovative product prototypes, design portfolios and industry-oriented research, reflecting the strong technical training and multidisciplinary skills imparted by the institute.