



FOOTWEAR DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India
AN INSTITUTION OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE under FDDI Act 2017



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER- NOVEMBER 2025



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Readers,

As we move forward with the spirit of growth and collective achievement, November has been a month filled with creativity, learning, and meaningful outreach at our campus. I am delighted to share the highlights that reflect the dedication and enthusiastic participation of our students, faculty and staff.



This month, we proudly hosted the CBSE Schools Design Competition, an inspiring initiative that brought young creative minds to our campus. Their fresh ideas and innovative thinking reaffirmed our commitment to nurturing design talent at the school level and strengthening our bond with the academic community.

We also observed Constitution Day, honoring the guiding principles that form the foundation of our nation. The activities conducted on this day not only celebrated the spirit of the Constitution but also encouraged students to reflect upon their responsibilities as informed and responsible citizens.

A series of workshops held during the month added immense value to the learning environment. These hands-on sessions provided students with practical exposure, skill enhancement, and insights from industry experts, bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world application.

Our outreach activities continued to strengthen the institute's presence and impact in the community. These initiatives helped us connect meaningfully with various stakeholders while showcasing the capabilities and creative strengths of our institution.

I extend my appreciation to all departments, faculty members, and students for their sincere efforts and active involvement in making November a productive and memorable month. Let us carry this momentum forward as we work together to achieve new milestones in the months ahead.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pragya Singh" with a small "IRS" at the end.

Ms. Pragya Singh, IRS
Executive Director
FDDI Chandigarh

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ABOUT CAMPUS



**“Discipline
inspires
creativity.”**

FDDI CHANDIGARH

Chandigarh campus is known for academic excellence and disciplined campus environment. Institute is enriched in associations with industry and academic fraternity in north India. Frequent academic & cultural activities develop the professional acumen in the scholars.

Chandigarh campus is privileged to be one of the most preferred campuses of FDDI.

Besides ample air-conditioned classrooms, technical workshops equipped with modern state-of-art machineries, it has conference halls, seminar halls, auditorium, ITSC, Design Studio, CAD-CAM lab and the Digital library along with fully furnished separate Girls & Boys Hostels. This makes FDDI Chandigarh Campus a most modern and world class campus.

The environment here nurtures creativity, discipline, and holistic development for every learner. The campus continues to inspire excellence, innovation, and leadership across all academic domains.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are pleased to present the November 2025 edition of our Newsletter, highlighting a month filled with creativity, learning, and impactful academic activities. This edition features the CBSE Schools Design Competition, which brought fresh ideas and vibrant energy to our campus, showcasing young talent and strengthening our engagement with the school community.

Our observance of Constitution Day reaffirmed our respect for the guiding principles of our nation, encouraging students to reflect on their duties and responsibilities as informed citizens. The various workshops conducted during the month enriched students with hands-on knowledge, skill development, and valuable exposure to industry perspectives.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our Executive Director, faculty members, staff, and students for their enthusiastic participation and continuous support. We hope this edition captures the spirit of November and inspires all our readers.

EDITORIAL TEAM



Mr. Sandeep Kumar Ganjay
Sr. Faculty & HOD



Mr. Ashok Joshi
Faculty & HOD



Dr. Pooja Singh
Faculty



Dr. Annu Kumari
Faculty



Mr. Sudarshan Shahi
Faculty



Mr. Nitin Meena
Asst. Manager



V. Chandana Samyuktha
Student



Aastha Narula
Student



Arshdeep Kaur
Student

FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

It gives us immense pleasure to present the November 2025 edition of the FDDI Chandigarh Newsletter. This month has been a remarkable journey filled with creativity, innovation, reflection, and community-driven initiatives. Each activity conducted in November contributed to strengthening our academic environment and reaffirming our commitment to holistic learning.

One of the most significant highlights of the month was the CBSE Schools Design Competition, where we had the opportunity to host talented young students from various schools. Their participation brought fresh perspectives, imaginative ideas, and an infectious energy to the campus.

We also proudly commemorated Constitution Day, a moment of national significance. The activities undertaken on this day encouraged students to reflect on the values that define our democracy and guided meaningful discussions on the responsibilities of being informed, aware, and responsible citizens.

In addition to these major events, the month was enriched with a series of workshops that provided students with valuable exposure to industry-relevant knowledge. These sessions offered hands-on learning, practical demonstrations, and opportunities to interact with experts, helping bridge the gap between theoretical understanding and real-world application.

As we reflect on the month of November, we are reminded once again that the strength of our institution lies in its people—their ideas, enthusiasm, and willingness to grow together. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Executive Director, faculty members, staff, and students who continuously contribute to making FDDI Chandigarh a vibrant hub of learning and creativity.

We hope this edition captures the essence of November's activities and provides our readers with an inspiring and insightful glimpse into the collective efforts of our campus community. May the months ahead continue to be filled with progress, innovation, and shared accomplishments.

Warm regards,

Editorial Team

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION – YOUTH CONNECT

The institute celebrated Children's Day with joy and enthusiasm through a specially curated event titled Youth Connect, dedicated to acknowledging the efforts, energy, and creativity of our students. The celebration aimed to strengthen the bond between students and faculty while offering a platform for expression, fun, and recognition.

The event began with a warm welcome and an address highlighting the importance of nurturing young minds. As part of Youth Connect, faculty and staff members organized a variety of engaging games and fun-filled activities designed to encourage participation, teamwork, and enjoyment. Students enthusiastically took part in every

activity, filling the atmosphere with laughter, excitement, and vibrant energy. To further appreciate the students' dedication and involvement throughout the year, gifts were distributed to all participants, adding an element of surprise and delight. The initiative reflected the institute's commitment to celebrating its youth not only as learners, but as valued contributors to the campus community.

The event concluded with expressions of gratitude to the students, faculty, and organizers for making the day memorable. Youth Connect truly captured the spirit of Children's Day by celebrating the joy, enthusiasm, and potential of every student.

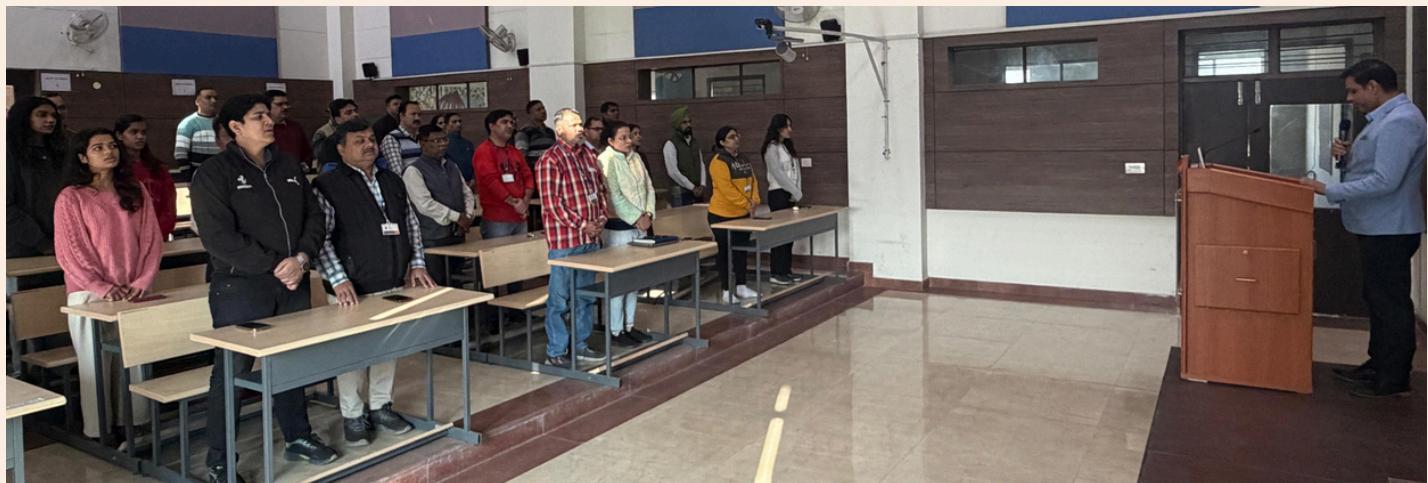


CONSTITUTION DAY

The Constitution Day was successfully observed on 26th November 2025 with a collective sense of respect and national pride. As instructed, all employees and students assembled to mark this important occasion.

The program commenced with a brief introduction on the significance of Constitution Day and the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. All staff members participated in the collective reading of the Preamble, reaffirming their commitment to the constitutional principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. The unified recitation created an atmosphere of solemnity and patriotism within the campus.

The event served as a meaningful reminder of the responsibilities and rights of every citizen, encouraging the campus community to uphold the spirit of the Constitution in their professional and personal lives. The celebration concluded on an inspiring note, with appreciation expressed to all faculty members, staff, and students for their participation and cooperation in making the observance of Constitution Day both impactful and memorable.





FASHION SHOW

“TRADITION REDEFINED: SAREE ELEGANCE PAIRED WITH A MODERN WAISTCOAT.”

A vibrant Fashion Show was organized, where 3rd-year Fashion Design students showcased their innovatively designed waistcoats developed under the subject Pattern Making & Garment Construction. The event served as an excellent platform for students to translate their technical knowledge into creative expression, highlighting precision in fit, construction techniques, and design aesthetics.

The showcase provided students with valuable practical exposure, stage confidence, and industry-oriented experience as they presented their creations before faculty and peers. The audience appreciated the originality and craftsmanship reflected in each ensemble. The event also encouraged peer learning and constructive feedback, fostering a collaborative academic environment. Faculty members applauded the students' ability to integrate contemporary trends with strong pattern-making fundamentals.



EXPERT SESSION ON DESIGN EVOLUTION & PRODUCT IDEATION



—
***“Design evolves
when ideas
transform into
purposeful
products.”***
—

Dr. Rajesh Sharma, HOD Fashion Design at FDDI Noida, delivered an expert session on "Design Evolution & Product Ideation" for foundation students on November 19, 2025 (11 AM - 12 PM) at FDDI Chandigarh. The session traced fashion design's evolution from Gothic architecture's vertical lines to Art Nouveau's organic forms and modern 3D-printed structures, alongside influences from footwear fields like ergonomic soles and sustainable materials. Students learned product ideation through trend research, mood boards, rapid prototyping, and market validation—building skills for innovative, commercially viable designs.

10-WEEK LIFESTYLE MEDICINE PROGRAM ASSESSMENT SESSION

10-week Lifestyle Medicine program was successfully conducted for students, beginning in mid-August 2025 and concluding on 29th October 2025. Designed to promote physical, emotional, and mental well-being, the structured module was led by experts Dr. Parag Sharma (MD, Psychiatrist & Lifestyle Physician) and Dr. Sandeep Kumar (Psychologist & Lifestyle Medicine Expert).



Across the duration of the program, students were introduced to key lifestyle medicine practices such as restorative sleep techniques, dynamic meditation, emotional freedom techniques, and simple mind-body exercises to calm the nervous system. The sessions were highly experiential, encouraging students to adopt healthier habits, build self-awareness, and integrate mindful practices into their daily routines. The concluding session, titled "5 Keys to Preventing Substance Abuse," sensitized students to the causes, early warning signs, and preventive strategies related to substance use, emphasizing awareness, balance, and self-control.

A post-assessment survey was conducted on 19th November 2025 to evaluate the program's effectiveness. Responses indicated enhanced awareness of lifestyle medicine concepts and strong engagement with the sessions, with many participants expressing increased motivation to prioritize holistic well-being. The initiative formally concluded with a felicitation and vote of thanks by Mr. Sandeep Kumar Ganjay, HOD – Fashion Design, marking the successful completion of a meaningful wellness-focused learning journey at FDDI Chandigarh.



WORKSHOP ON MACRAMÉ & BRAIDING TECHNIQUES

A hands-on workshop on “Macramé & Braiding Knots” was successfully organized on 17th November 2025 under the course Design Project-I. The session was conducted by Ms. Neha, a skilled macramé designer known for her contemporary craft-based design practices. During the workshop, students were introduced to a range of essential macramé knots, including the square knot, double half hitch knot, spiral knot, and other fundamental techniques integral to structured product development. Moving beyond the traditional scope of wall hangings, students applied these techniques to create concept-based products aligned with modern design sensibilities. The workshop resulted in a diverse array of creative outputs such as macramé dresses, handbags, mobile pouches, headgear, accessories, and lifestyle products, showcasing students' strong ideation, craftsmanship, and ability to experiment with materials. This session significantly enhanced students' hands-on competencies, deepened their understanding of craft integration in design, and highlighted the continued relevance of macramé and braiding techniques in contemporary fashion and accessory development.





Footwear in Ancient Indian Epics: The Cultural Symbolism of Sandals in the Ramayana and Mahabharata

Abstract: Indian epics, the Ramayana and Mahabharata, are laden with emblematic storytelling elements, and footwear emerges as a recurring motif that pervades these timeless narratives. This study combines epic passages with leading Indian scholarship to reveal how sandals particularly *paduka* and *upanah* serve as powerful cultural symbols embodying kingship, divine presence, devotion, ascetic renunciation, and ritual purification. Through close readings of Sanskrit critical editions and insights from museum studies on traditional Indian footwear, the research explores how these objects transcend their functional role to reflect profound social, ritual, and spiritual meanings in ancient Indian culture. The methodology stays within a literary and interpretive framework, selecting relevant passages and cross-referencing them with Indian academic sources to establish recurring patterns.

In the Ramayana, Bharata's act of enthroning Rama's *paduka* transforms sandals into symbols of royal authority and divine presence. The Mahabharata adds another dimension, linking specific footwear types to social roles: crafted sandals for rulers and warriors, simple bark or bare feet for ascetics expressing both hierarchy and moral worth. These sandals, often made of wood or bark, represented humility and sacred power simultaneously. What emerges is a clear pattern: sandals in both epics go beyond their role as mere objects; they symbolise duty, legitimacy, humility, and sanctity. The act of removing or venerating footwear before rituals or sacred spaces demonstrates how these objects were deeply tied to ideas of respect, purity, and spiritual order.

The study offers a structured understanding of how footwear functioned symbolically in India's epics, connecting literary images to cultural functions of authority and purification, while opening pathways for future research in design history, traditional craftsmanship, and heritage footwear conservation.

Keywords: *Paduka*, *Upanah*, Indian epics, symbolism, cultural heritage, sandal worship, literary analysis

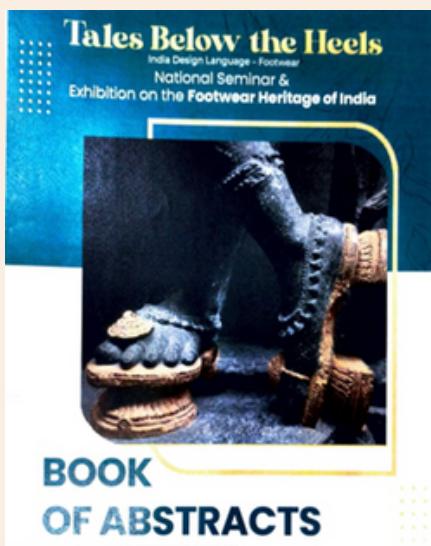
SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT: PAPER PRESENTATION

JHANVI GARG, Student
B. Des FDP, 2022 Batch

She has Presented her research paper titled "Footwear in Ancient Indian Epics: The Cultural Symbolism of Sandals in the Ramayana and Mahabharata" on November 30, 2025, at the National Seminar & Exhibition "Tales Below the Heel" organized by FDDI Hyderabad in collaboration with the Pleach India Foundation. The paper, co-authored with Dr. Raghuraj Panwar, explores the deeper cultural significance of sandals within India's two greatest epics.

Their work reinterprets footwear not merely as functional objects but as meaningful symbols representing dharma, loyalty, sacrifice, and identity. Through textual references and cultural analysis, the study highlights how simple sandals—such as Bharat carrying Rama's padukas or the symbolic footwear in the Mahabharata—serve as powerful narrative devices shaping values and relationships.

The presentation received appreciation for its unique perspective and its contribution to connecting ancient traditions with contemporary footwear studies.



SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT'S CLUB ACTIVITIES

DEBATE COMPETITION



Under the Sanskriti Club, FDDI Chandigarh organized a debate on National Education Day on 11th November 2025, engaging students with the themes "Ancient Gurukul Education System" and "National Education Policy (NEP) 2020." The event aimed to promote critical thinking and help students understand India's educational evolution. Students speaking on the Gurukul system highlighted its holistic approach, strong guru-shishya bond, value-based learning, and integration of real-life skills such as arts, agriculture, and philosophy. They emphasized how this model nurtured discipline, self-reliance, and character development beyond examinations. Participants supporting NEP 2020 focused on its multidisciplinary structure, conceptual learning, flexibility in subject choices, and emphasis on inclusivity and digital access. They noted its goal of creating future-ready learners through experiential and skill-based education. A key insight emerged when students drew parallels between both systems, noting that NEP 2020 revives several strengths of the Gurukul ethos while adapting them to modern needs. The session—moderated by Dr. Annu Kumari and judged by Dr. Avinash Bajpai and Dr. Prashant Tripathi—saw enthusiastic participation and strengthened students' analytical and public speaking skills.

FACULTY PARTICIPATION IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES



Dr. Pooja Singh and Mr. Ashok Joshi presented their paper titled "स्वदेशी उत्पादोंको बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकारी पहलें (Government Initiatives to Promote Swadeshi Products)" at the National Webinar on 6 Nov 2025. Their contribution highlighted significant insights on promoting Swadeshi products through government initiatives.

Dr. Annu Kumari successfully completed a professional development NPTEL+ online workshop on "Instructional Design 3: Assessment –Testing Knowledge, Skill, and Attitude" by Dr. Briju Thankachan, executive director, EdTech Society on 8th November, 2025.



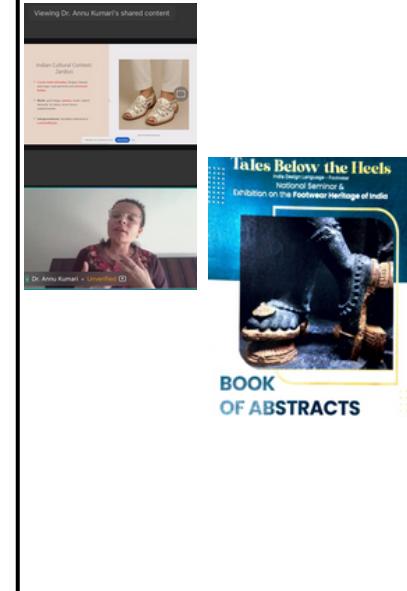
Mr. Ashok Joshi and Mr. Sharad Awasthi had actively participated in the 5-day Online FDP on "Machine Learning for a Smarter Future: A Comprehensive Online FDP on Principles, Practices, and Innovations," organized by the School of Computing, K.S.R. College of Arts and Science for Women from 24.11.2025 to 28.11.2025.

FACULTY PARTICIPATION IN ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES



Dr. Raghuraj Panwar, Faculty, FDP, participated as a Session Chair in the three-day National Seminar and Exhibition "Tales Below the Heels" at FDDI Hyderabad from 28–30 November 2025, where he presided over the technical session titled "footwear in literature, performing arts & visual culture".

Dr. Annu Kumari, Faculty, Fashion Design department presented the insightful paper "Unveiling the Cultural and Spiritual Symbolism of Footwear Across Traditions", co-authored by Dr. Raghuraj Panwar and Dr. Prashant Tripathi. The presentation took place on November 30, 2025, at the 3-Day National Seminar & Exhibition "Tales Below the Heel", organized by FDDI Hyderabad and Pleach India Foundation. Their work explores footwear beyond utility—as carriers of cultural memory, spiritual motifs, and identity across global traditions.



Dr. Avinash Bajpai, has been invited to serve as the session chair for one of the sessions of International Conference on Fashion as a Tool for Social Change, Innovating The Present, Preserving the Future organized by Woxsen University, Hyderabad during 10th & 11th November 2025.

The session track was on broad theme of Economic Empowerment Through Fashion.



FOOTWEAR AS A LIVING DESIGN LANGUAGE: A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURE AND SPIRITUALITY

Dr. Annu Kumari
Faculty, Fashion Design

Footwear is not just meant for walking; in many cultures, it carries deep meanings of identity, faith, and family history. In the Tatar community, leather mosaic boots decorated with tulip and geometric patterns represent fertility, protection, and harmony. These designs connect the wearer to the legacy of the Kazan Khanate and their nomadic cultural roots. Similarly, in Tibetan Buddhist traditions, Arhat shoes worn by monks have six symbolic openings that remind them of the illusions of life, the six spiritual perfections (such as kindness and wisdom), and the idea of impermanence. The symbols on these shoes—dragons for power, lotus for purity, and conch shells for wisdom—guide monks on their spiritual journey.

In India, footwear also holds strong spiritual and cultural meaning. Hindu paadukas, or sacred sandal imprints, represent the divine footsteps of gods like Lord Rama and are worshipped as symbols of guidance and purity. Phulkari-embroidered Punjabi juttis use motifs of wheat and birds to express prosperity and joy, while Madhubani-inspired sneakers feature kohbar fish motifs that symbolize marriage blessings and fertility. Together, these examples show how craft, devotion, and daily life come together through footwear, and they remind us that ethical fashion must respect cultural roots instead of misusing them.

Craft, devotion, and daily life come together through footwear, and they remind us that ethical fashion must respect cultural roots instead of misusing them.



POETIC REFLECTIONS

POMEGRANATES

I always peel the pomegranates for them,
my fingers stained blood-red,
releasing each seed,
oh, so sweet.

The bitter rind lingers in my hands.

They never see the ache in my wrist,
the soft sting of giving—
always giving—
peeling back the layers
until only the flesh remains,
sweet and red,
offered to them,
never returned.

I hold the knife like a promise,
cutting away the part I want most—
the seeds that hide within,
but always for their taste,
never for mine.

But I never complain,

I just wish and hope.

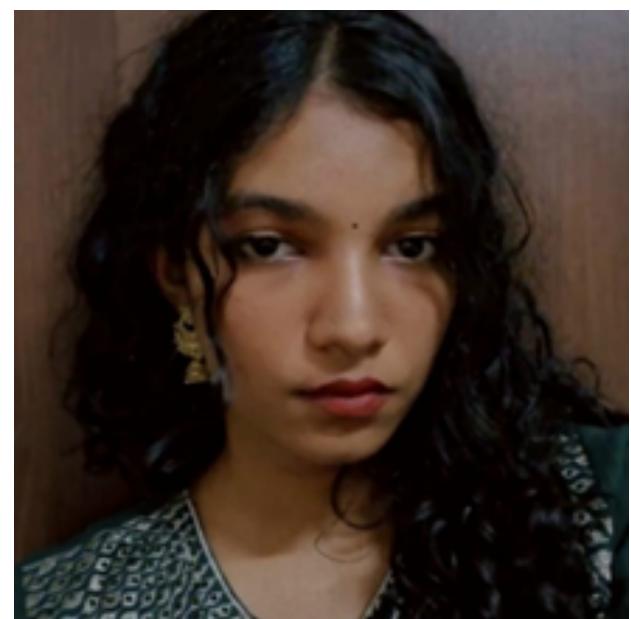
I wonder if the pomegranate knows my pain,
its seeds falling effortlessly into my hands.

Perhaps it's just my romantic mind, confusing
skill with pity.

Sometimes, I think I'll stop,
but the thought fades,
like the pomegranate's scent
on my hands,
which they'll never notice.

So I keep peeling,
silently wishing
that one day,
they'll peel it for me.

Today as I was eating a pomegranate, a thought came into my mind. How many years has it been since someone peeled a pomegranate for my mother, because I've always seen her do it with so much love. A kind of love that is way sweeter than the pomegranate itself. This thought lingered in my mind for so long that it paved way for these words. I hope you enjoy this little something that I've written and go peel a pomegranate for your mother or tell her how grateful you are for her unconditional love



V. Chandana Samyuktha
FD 2023-27

FASHION HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 2025



FESTIVE CAMPAIGNS GO GLOBAL

Luxury and high-street brands unveiled Holiday 2025 campaigns featuring winter layering, statement accessories, and immersive retail pop-ups.

BOLD A/W 2025 TRENDS DOMINATE

Animal prints, rich textures, power shoulders, and gothic-romantic silhouettes emerged as key Autumn/Winter fashion statements.

Designers embraced dramatic layering, luxurious fabrics, and deep jewel tones to create bold seasonal narratives.

Structured tailoring blended with fluid drapes, reflecting a balance between strength and sensuality.

Heritage influences and modern craftsmanship came together, redefining elegance with a contemporary edge.



SEW LOKA & THE HOMEGROWN PROJECT PRESENT



THE LANE
600 BAYFRONT CT
SUITE 200
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

UPCYCLING
WORKSHOPS &
FASHION SHOW

NOV 9TH
2-9PM

SAN DIEGO DECLARED A CITY-WIDE SLOW FASHION DAY

San Diego declared a city-wide Slow Fashion Day in November, highlighting the importance of sustainability and ethical consumption.

The initiative encouraged citizens to support local artisans, responsible brands, and mindful buying practices.

It reinforced the growing global shift toward eco-conscious fashion and reduced environmental impact.

FOOTWEAR HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 2025



SNEAKER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Sneaker Highlights of the Year: The Business of Fashion identified the most impactful sneaker releases of 2025, shaping consumer and collector interest.

Collaborations, limited editions, and performance-driven designs dominated the list, driving resale value and cultural relevance.

BRAND GROWTH: SALOMON AND ARC'TERYX POSTED ROBUST FOOTWEAR GROWTH, GIVING OPTIMISM FOR 2026 PERFORMANCE.

Strong demand for outdoor, trail, and performance footwear drove higher sales across key global markets.

Their focus on innovation, durability, and sustainable materials continues to strengthen consumer trust and brand loyalty.



SECTOR EVENTS IN INDIA

The Shoe Tech exhibition in Kanpur wrapped up with ~2,000 industry delegates and ₹500 crore in business opportunities.

The event showcased advancements in footwear machinery, components, and sustainable manufacturing practices.

It also strengthened collaboration between MSMEs, manufacturers, and technology providers across the Indian footwear ecosystem.



ADVANCE YOUR CAREER WITH SPECIALIZED DIPLOMA COURSES AT FDDI-CHANDIGARH



FOOTWEAR DESIGN &
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India



DIPLOMA IN FOOTWEAR TECHNOLOGY

KEY INPUTS :-

Manufacturing Technique & Quality Control,
Pattern Engineering & Production Supervision
Product Design, Costing, Sustainability
AI, IT & Industry Ready Skills

KEY OUTCOME :-

- ✓ Get your 1-Year Diploma by completing both modules.
- ✓ Path way to B.Des program through lateral entry.
- ✓ Multiple entry/exit, exist with a certificate.

MODULE 1:- Footwear Manufacturing Technology
MODULE 2:- Footwear Design & Development

Apply
Now

LAST DATE :- 31 DEC. 2025



For More Details Contact Us
NH-7, Chandigarh-Patiala Highway, Near ITI, Banur (Near Chandigarh),
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FOOTWEAR DESIGN &
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Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India



DIPLOMA IN FASHION DESIGN

KEY INPUTS :-

Fashion Illustration, Textile Studies, Fashion Graphics
Surface Ornamentation, Sustainable Fashion, Entrepreneurship

KEY OUTCOME :-

- ✓ Get your 1-Year Diploma by completing both modules.
- ✓ Path way to B.Des program through lateral entry.
- ✓ Multiple entry/exit, exist with a certificate.

MODULE 1:- Apparel Design
MODULE 2:- Apparel Manufacturing



LAST DATE :- 31 DEC. 2025

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FOOTWEAR DESIGN &
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DIPLOMA IN RETAIL FASHION MANAGEMENT

KEY INPUTS :-

Retail Operations, Merchandising & Marketing, E-Commerce, SEO,
Digital Tools & CRM Branding, Business Communications & Visual Merchandising

KEY OUTCOME :-

- ✓ Get your 1-Year Diploma by completing both modules.
- ✓ Path way to BBA program through lateral entry.
- ✓ Multiple entry/exit, exist with a certificate.

MODULE 1:- Retail Fashion Store Business
MODULE 2:- Retail Fashion Digital Business

Apply
Now

LAST DATE :- 31 DEC. 2025



For More Details Contact Us

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OUR PRESENCE



**“NOVEMBER REMINDS US THAT
GROWTH BEGINS WITH REFLECTION
AND ENDS WITH PURPOSE.”**

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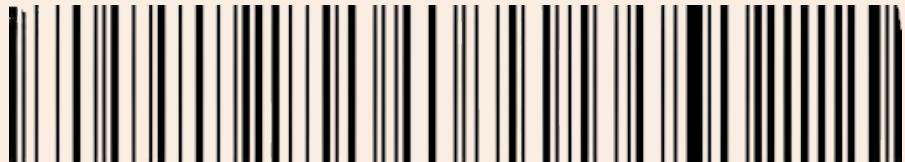
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FDDI Chandigarh