



FDDI

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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FDDI participates in the 38th IILF

FDDI participated in the 38th India International Leather Fair (IILF-2025), which was held between 1st to 3rd February 2025 at Chennai Trade Centre, Nandambakkam, Chennai.

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Dignitaries at the inauguration session of 38th IILF



A view of the inauguration session of 38th IILF

The 38th IILF was inaugurated by Mrs. Supriya Sahu, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu and Mr. Vimal Anand, IRS, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India in the august presence of Mr. Rajendra Kumar Jalan, Chairman, Council for Leather Exports (CLE), Mr. R Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE, Mr. Mukhtarul Amin, Chairman and Managing Director, Superhouse Group, Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Alpine Group, Colonel Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI along with the captains of Indian leather and footwear industry.



3rd from Left: Colonel Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary FDDI, Ms. Manju Maan, Executive Director (ED) - FDDI, Noida campus and Mr. M. Sundaresan, ED - FDDI, Chennai campus alongwith the staff at the stall of FDDI



From Left: Ms. Sabiha Rizvi, IRS, Director, Leather Section, DPIIT and Mr. E Srinivas, IRSSE, Joint Secretary, DPIIT being briefed by the staff of FDDI about the products displayed at the stall of FDDI

- FDDI participates in the 38th IILF;
- FDDI, Kolkata students visit 'Hasta Shilpa Mela 2025';
- Officials from FDDI, Ankleshwar visit VNSGU, Surat;
- FDDI, Hyderabad students visit at 'Birla Science Museum' & 'Nirmala Birla Gallery of Modern Art';
- Workshop on 'Trend Forecasting and Global Career Opportunities' held at FDDI, Kolkata;
- Educational excursion for FDDI, Noida students at Jodhpur;
- FDDI, Kolkata students attend 23rd Sanjoy Sen Memorial Lecture;
- Delegation from HITS, Chennai visits CoE-FDDI, Chennai and Asst. Prof. -LPU, Jalandhar visits CoE-FDDI, Hyderabad;
- Joint research article of Faculty of FDDI gets published in The Journal of the Textile Association;
- FDDI, Chennai campus holds its 6th Convocation ceremony.

Over 350 companies from India and abroad, including 45 exhibitors from overseas displayed their products that provided insight into latest innovations in the areas of technology and trends of leather & footwear industry. The fair had on display the entire range of products relating to leather industry from raw material to finished products and auxiliary products.

As one of the premier events in India's leather and footwear industry, IILF provided FDDI with a prime platform to demonstrate its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and cutting-edge design. The fair attracted key industry stakeholders, including

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manufacturers, exporters, designers, policymakers, and international participants, fostering a dynamic environment for collaboration and business exchanges.

The stall featured a diverse range of student-designed products, including footwear, leather goods, garments, and accessories. Many of these designs had been recognized at prestigious national awards, further highlighting the exceptional creativity and skill of FDDI's students. The products on display showcased innovative and High fashion designs, with a notable emphasis on eco-friendly materials and processes that are becoming increasingly important in the global marketplace.

The services of FDDI's International Testing Centres (ITC) for supporting the footwear and leather industry were also provided to the perspective visitors. Information about the academic programmes of the FDDI which is having the status of 'Institute of National Importance' as per FDDI Act, 2017 was also provided to the aspiring students.



A view of interaction with industries



Participants of seminar and IDLS Awareness Session

Networking played a significant role at the fair, and FDDI capitalized on this by engaging with a wide range of industry leaders. Representatives from major brands like Bata, Reliance Footprint, Hindustan HFL, and Cotecna as well as leading institutions like CLE, Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) and Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI), interacted with FDDI's team. These interactions facilitated valuable knowledge exchanges, provided market insights, and opened the door for future collaborations.



A view of the stall of FDDI during 'Designers Fair'



Secretary-FDDI sharing his views during CIFI Members' Get-Together

A key feature of FDDI's stall was its Start-up's alumni brand showcase, a tribute to the success of former students who have ventured into entrepreneurship. FDDI highlighted several alumni brands, including Ms. Nidhi Priyatama (Brand Name:

- Insilito 22), Ms. Bhavana Marjana (Brand Name Bhavana) and Mr. Biplab Bhattacharya (Brand Name: - Ravvani), which have gained recognition in the leather goods and footwear industries. This initiative not only celebrated the entrepreneurial spirit nurtured by FDDI, but also provided alumni with a platform to showcase their businesses, gain exposure, and explore collaboration opportunities with other industry stakeholders.

During the IILF, on 2nd February 2025, a seminar on 'Productivity Improvement for the Footwear Sector' was conducted by Mr. Dinesh Kumar, Head of the Department, School of Footwear Design and Production (FDP) & IDLS Awareness Session was conducted by Mr. D. Ramesh, Senior Faculty (Gr-II), FDP, FDDI Chennai campus. The seminar focused on industry-driven mechanisms, emphasizing the significance of different driving wheels in enhancing productivity. It highlighted the importance of studying a factory's workflow before recommending tailored productivity improvement training programs. IDLS Awareness



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Session was specifically conducted for Managing Directors and Managers of the Kerala footwear industry. The session covered key aspects such as IDLS eligibility criteria, guidelines, required documentation formats, and the application process for the scheme.

During the fair, CLE organized the 8th edition of 'Designers Fair' in which FDDI displayed a wide range of creations at its stand. The stall was visited by popular overseas and Indian designers.

During the 38th IILF, Confederation of Indian Footwear Industries (CIFI) Members' Get-Together was held on 1st February 2025 which provided excellent opportunity for industry leaders to connect, share insights, and strengthen collaborations. Colonel Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary FDDI shared his views on 'Future-Ready Skills for the Footwear Industry'. His insights on skill development, emerging trends, and the role of institutions like FDDI in preparing the workforce for the evolving footwear sector was highly valuable for industry stakeholders.

FDDI, Kolkata students visit 'Hasta Shilpa Mela 2025'

The students of FDDI Kolkata campus visited the 'Hasta Shilpa Mela 2025' on 29th January 2025 at City Square Ground, Opposite Central Mall, Kolkata.

The Mela organized by the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Textile Department, showcasing a wide range of handcrafted products from artisans across the State, provided the students gain insights into the ancient traditional crafts of West Bengal.

The visit was marked by great curiosity and enthusiasm among the students. They had the opportunity to interact directly with the artisans, gaining valuable knowledge and



Students of FDDI at 'Hasta Shilpa Mela 2025'

understanding that will contribute to their future craft cluster projects. This experience has significantly enriched their perspective on traditional crafts and the craftsmanship of Bengal.

Officials from FDDI, Ankleshwar visit VNSGU, Surat

On 24th January 2025, Mr. Lalit Prakash Jangra, Executive Director (ED), FDDI Ankleshwar campus, along with Mr. Rajesh Parashar, HoD-School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) visited Veer Narmad South Gujarat University (VNSGU), Surat. FDDI, Ankleshwar officials at VNSGU, Surat.

During the visit, they met Dr. Kishorsinh Chavda - Vice Chancellor of VNSGU, Dr R.C. Gadvi - Registrar and various departmental heads to explore potential collaborative opportunities.

Key discussions focused on fostering joint research initiatives, implementing strategic admission plans, and establishing faculty exchange programs to enhance academic and professional experiences. The proposed collaboration aims to integrate VNSGU's robust academic framework with FDDI Ankleshwar's cutting-edge methodologies, fostering innovation and driving impactful research.



FDDI, Ankleshwar officials at VNSGU, Surat

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FDDI, Hyderabad students visit at 'Birla Science Museum' & 'Nirmala Birla Gallery of Modern Art'

With the objective to provide a solid foundation and to enhance their knowledge on design, craft heritage, science and technology, the students of B.Des-Foundation Batch of FDDI, Hyderabad campus were taken to 'Birla Science Museum' & 'Nirmala Birla Gallery of Modern Art' on 21st January, 2025.

Whereas 'Birla Science Museum' comprises a planetarium, archaeological museum, science centre as well as a dinosaurium and also houses India's first private Space Museum; 'Nirmala Birla Gallery of Modern Art' has collection of unique paintings and artifacts that showcases various forms of artistic expression by Indian and International Artist.

Under the supervision and guidance of the faculty of FDDI, the students saw the distinct creative works, artifact, Design, Art, dimensions and surface textures in paintings, pottery, armour, crafts etc.

Students got opportunity to familiarize themselves with scientific principles through various tools & apparatuses, acquiring scientific knowledge in an interactive way and the phases in advancement of technology.

The visit shall help them further application of these techniques in their projects and assignments.



FDDI students along with their faculty members at the museum

Workshop on 'Trend Forecasting and Global Career Opportunities' held at FDDI, Kolkata

An insightful workshop on 'Trend Forecasting and Global Career Opportunities' was held at FDDI, Kolkata on 20th January 2025.

Ms. Rita Dey was the resource person who is an alumna of FDDI Kolkata who holds an MA in International Fashion Management from Nottingham Trent University, UK and is currently employed as a Merchandising Analyst at BODEN.



Presentation by Ms. Rita Dey



Ms. Rita Dey interacting with the students

With over seven years of experience in the fashion and technology sectors, Ms. Dey is a creative professional possessing strong fashion insights and a keen financial understanding. Her expertise lies in

trend analysis, commercial awareness, customer behaviour analysis, and business strategy formulation.

During the session, Ms. Dey delivered an engaging presentation on the key concepts of trend forecasting. Her discussion covered essential topics such as Conceptual Imagery, Dissecting Runway Shows, Colour Trends, Fabric, Texture & Print Trends, Cross-Sector Analysis, and Trend Report Analysis. Additionally, she provided in-depth explanations on methodologies like the Diffusion of Innovation, The Diamond Shaped Trend Model, DESTEP Analysis, and Macro and Micro Influences. Other topics included Trend Mapping, Trend Implications, and Trend Theory, as well as insights into the roles of Innovators and Influencers in shaping market dynamics.



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Furthermore, Ms. Dey shared valuable insights on the opportunities of studying abroad and building a successful career in the global fashion industry. Her inspiring words motivated the students to explore international prospects, particularly in relation to job opportunities and academic growth abroad.

Educational excursion for FDDI, Noida students at Jodhpur

Under educational excursion, the students of School of Retail and Fashion Merchandise (RFM) of FDDI, Noida campus embarked on a three-day journey to the iconic Mehrangarh Fort, Mandore Garden, Indiabulls Mega Mall and the magnificent Umaid Bhavan Palace located at Jodhpur from 16th to 18th January 2025.

The excursion comprised a total number of 35 students accompanied by faculty members namely, Dr. Renu Sharma, Chief Faculty/ HoD – Retail, Mr. Gaganjeet, Senior Faculty and Ms. Anisha Modi, Faculty.

The group visited the iconic Mehrangarh Fort, a majestic structure known for its grand courtyards, intricate carvings, and stunning panoramic views of the Blue City. The architectural brilliance and historical significance of the fort left visitors captivated. The day continued at Mandore Garden, where ancient temples and cenotaphs stood amidst lush greenery.

They also visited Indiabulls Mega Mall, a seven-story mall, established in 2019, spanning 6 lakh square feet. This commercial hub provided insights into its rental model, corporate spaces, and operational strategies.



Faculty and students during their educational excursion

The journey concluded at the magnificent Umaid Bhavan Palace, where exquisite artifacts, including perfume bottles, candlesticks, and clocks, showcased the opulence and splendor of royal heritage.

Students also had the privilege of meeting National Awardee, Mr. Mohan Lal Gujjar during their visit to handicraft fair.

The three-day trip offered a seamless blend of history, innovation, knowledgeable, and culture, creating an interesting and informative experience for all involved.

FDDI, Kolkata students attend 23rd Sanjoy Sen Memorial Lecture

On 14th January 2025, the students of FDDI, Kolkata campus who were accompanied by the faculties attended the 23rd Sanjoy Sen Memorial Lecture which was conducted at Science City, Kolkata.



FDDI students at the venue



Lecture in progress

Organized by the Indian Leather Technologists' Association (ILTA), a captivating lecture by Mr. Harsh Kumar Jha, Former Managing Director of Tata Metaliks Ltd., on the topic 'Competitiveness – An Enigma' provides valuable

insights on maintaining competitive advantage in a changing business environment.

In his lecture, Mr. Jha explored the complexities of competitiveness in the business world, discussing strategies and approaches for companies and individuals to maintain and build sustainable competitive advantages in a rapidly changing environment.

The event featured a welcome address by ILTA President, Mr. Arnab Jha and General Secretary, Mr. Susanta Mallick, followed by announcements of award winners and Mr. P. K. Basu Memorial Scholarship holders.



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The lecture provided valuable knowledge to the students which will help in shaping their future careers in the competitive design and manufacturing industries.

Delegation from HITS, Chennai visits CoE-FDDI, Chennai and Asst. Prof. -LPU, Jalandhar visits CoE-FDDI, Hyderabad

On 09th January 2025, a delegation consisting of professors from the Departments of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Automobile Engineering, and Fashion Design from the Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science (HITS), Chennai visited CoE-FDDI, Chennai.

The visit focused on exploring collaborative research opportunities in the design and development of innovative footwear solutions, particularly shoes with automated features aimed at enhancing the quality of life for the elderly, differently-abled, and visually impaired individuals.

During the visit, the professors were given a comprehensive overview of the CoE's state-of-the-art facilities, including the advanced computer-aided manufacturing systems. These modern technologies serve as a cornerstone for pioneering research and development in the footwear industry.



CoE-FDDI, Chennai staff briefing about the facility to the dignitaries



Mr. Kamal Preet Sandhu, Asst. Prof. - Department of Design, LPU, Jalandhar being briefed about the CoE's state-of-the-art facilities

On the same day, Mr. Kamal Preet Sandhu, Asst. Prof. - Department of Design, LPU, Jalandhar visited CoE-FDDI, Hyderabad.

The visit facilitated knowledge exchange and collaboration, focusing on innovative design practices and interdisciplinary research. His interaction with the CoE team fostered rich discussions and advancements in design education, contributing to mutual learning and potential future partnerships between the institutions.

Joint research article of Faculty of FDDI gets published in The Journal of the Textile Association



Mrs. Sweta Kumari, Senior Faculty, LGAD, FDDI - Noida



A view of the research article

A joint research article titled 'Study on Spacer Fabrics Used for Uppers of Athletic Shoes', authored by Ms. Sweta Kumari, Senior Faculty, Department of Leather Goods, FDDI, Noida, and Dr. Manpreet Manshahia of Amity University, Noida, has been published in The Journal of the Textile Association, Volume 85, Issue 3 (Sept-Oct 2024), pages 333-336.

This article explores the evolving role of spacer fabrics in athletic footwear, emphasizing their impact on comfort, breathability, durability, and performance. The study evaluates various types of spacer fabrics and their effectiveness in sports shoe uppers, contributing valuable insights into material innovation in sports footwear.

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The article has also been Scopus-indexed, further recognizing its contribution to academic research. It can be accessed online at: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14273386>

FDDI, Chennai campus holds its 6th Convocation ceremony

On 08th January 2025, FDDI, Chennai campus held its 6th Convocation ceremony for the Batch 2020-24.

The event was graced by Mr. Abdul Wahab, Regional Chairman (South)- Council for Leather Exports (CLE) and Managing Director, KH Exports India Pvt. Ltd., as 'Chief Guest' and Mrs. Tina Vincent Fashion Designer, Founder of XXL Tina Vincent was the 'Guest of Honour'.

On behalf of FDDI, Mr. M. Sundaresan, Executive Director, FDDI-Chennai campus welcomed the 'Chief Guest' and all the delegates, the graduating students during which the staff & students and their parents were also present.



Ms. Aarthi CR, FD topper and overall college topper of batch 2020 receiving the certificate of excellence along with the gold medal facilitated by the 'Chief Guest'



Ms. Aparna FDP topper of batch-2020 receiving 'Certificate of Excellence' by the 'Guest of Honour'

Marking the successful completion of their respective professional programme, a total of 39 students from School of Fashion Design (FD) and 35 B.Des students & 08 M.Des students from School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) were awarded their Degrees in the historic ceremony held at the Institute premises.

All the guests extended their best wishes to the passing-out students for a successful career in life.

OBITUARY



With profound grief we regret to inform the sad demise of our colleague, Mr. Veerendra Singh, Electrician, Engineering & Maintenance Department, FDDI - Rohtak campus, Employee Code: 00804, who passed away on 31st January 2025. He was associated with FDDI since 25th September 2013.

This loss leaves the FDDI fraternity with a deep void and his contributions will always be remembered. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray to the almighty to grant peace to the departed soul.

Entire staff of
Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI)