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NEWSLETTER



FOOTWEAR DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

An Institution of
National Importance



40 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION



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FDDI Celebrates 80 Years of Independence with Pride and Patriotism

FDDI campuses across the country celebrated India's 80th Independence Day on 15 August 2026 with great enthusiasm, patriotism and national pride. Celebrations brought together students, faculty members, officers and employees to commemorate the nation's freedom and honour the sacrifices of the freedom fighters.

At the FDDI Head Office in Noida, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI, unfurled the Tricolour in the presence of Ms. Manju Maan, Executive Director, Noida Campus, along with staff members, their families, and students.

Addressing the FDDI fraternity on the occasion, MD, FDDI, emphasised the responsibility of educational institutions in shaping the nation's future.

He encouraged students to pursue knowledge, innovation, skills and excellence with discipline and integrity, and to contribute meaningfully to the nation's growth. He further highlighted that empowering India's youth with future-ready skills and opportunities is central to building a self-reliant and developed India.



Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS – MD, FDDI unfurling the Tricolour



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Across the campuses, the programmes commenced with flag-hoisting ceremonies and the National Anthem, followed by inspiring addresses and a range of patriotic and cultural activities. The celebrations also served as an occasion for students and the FDDI fraternity to reflect on the journey and achievements of the nation over the past eight decades and reaffirm its commitment to the values of unity, integrity, excellence and responsible citizenship.



Students, employees and their family members at FDDI, Noida during the India's 80th Independence Day celebrations



A view of flag hoisting ceremony at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus

Students presented patriotic songs, dances and cultural performances that reflected the spirit of unity, national pride and love for the country.



Performance by trainees of Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), Ministry of Defence at FDDI, Rohtak Campus



Cultural performance at FDDI, Rohtak Campus

The vibrant participation across campuses demonstrated a shared sense of pride in India's rich heritage and aspirations for a progressive future.

At FDDI Patna, meritorious students and outstanding performers in sports were also felicitated, encouraging excellence across academics, sports and co-curricular activities.

The occasion concluded with a renewed resolve across FDDI campuses to empower young minds through quality education, skill development, innovation and industry-oriented learning, contributing to the nation's growth story and the vision of Viksit Bharat.



Meritorious students and outstanding performers in sports being felicitated at FDDI, Patna Campus



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FDDI Drives Design, Innovation and Industry Engagement at IIFF 2026

FDDI made a strong and multifaceted presence at the 10th India International Footwear Fair (IIFF) 2026, held from 6–8 August 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. As the Official Knowledge Partner of the fair, FDDI showcased its capabilities in design, technology, research, testing, innovation and skill development through a series of industry-focused initiatives.



Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles addressing the participants during the inaugural session of the IIFF 2026

Organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) in association with the Confederation of Indian Footwear Industries (CIFI), IIFF 2026 served as a major B2B platform, bringing together industry stakeholders from India and overseas. The three-day fair featured around 200 exhibitors showcasing footwear, components, machinery, chemicals, materials, technologies and allied products and services.



Dignitaries at the inaugural session of the IIFF 2026



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The fair was inaugurated by Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Textiles, in the presence of Amb Jawed Ashraf, Chairman, ITPO, Shri Premjit Lal, Executive Director, ITPO; Mr. V. Naushad, President, CIFI; and Mr. Raj Kumar Gupta, Chairman, CIFI, along with senior government officials, industry leaders, exhibitors, buyers and international delegates representing the global footwear industry.



Ms. Shreyasi Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Bihar at FDDI's stall

FDDI presented a dedicated Theme Pavilion in Hall 5, inaugurated by Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI, showcasing the Institute's diverse expertise and industry-oriented capabilities. The pavilion featured Sports & Performance Footwear, Sustainable Footwear & Materials, Leather Footwear & Lifestyle Products, Bags & Fashion Collections, Testing, Certification & R&D Solutions, Industry Consultancy & Product Development, and Skilling & Employability Initiatives, offering visitors a comprehensive glimpse into FDDI's integrated ecosystem of education, design, research and technology.



A student explaining the footwear design concept to Ms. Shreyasi Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Bihar



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The pavilion attracted industry professionals, government representatives, buyers and other visitors, providing an engaging platform to showcase FDDI's contributions to the footwear and lifestyle sectors. FDDI also had the honour of welcoming Ms. Shreyasi Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Bihar, who visited the pavilion and explored FDDI's product collections and industry-focused capabilities.



Students showcasing their spectacular collections on the ramp during 'Fashion Fusion 2026'



FDDI added a vibrant creative dimension to IIFF 2026 through Fashion Fusion 2026, presented by CIFI, FDDI and ITPO. The dynamic runway showcase brought together fashion, footwear, creativity and craftsmanship, with FDDI's team of designers presenting eight distinctive sequences from four FDDI campuses. The collections, Restorewear, Chiffon, Crochet, Rebel Bloom, Coastal Escape, Leather, The Art of Texture, and Lumified, explored innovative materials, textures, silhouettes and contemporary design expressions.

Each sequence reflected a unique design narrative and showcased the creative diversity and design capabilities of FDDI's campuses, highlighting the seamless integration of fashion, craftsmanship, innovative materials and footwear design. The presentation was further elevated by Karan Sharma as the showstopper, bringing the evening to a memorable finale.

As part of its role as the Official Knowledge Partner, FDDI hosted 10 knowledge sessions at the FDDI Knowledge Forum in Seminar Hall 6, bringing together government representatives, industry leaders, technical experts, innovators and designers. The sessions addressed key



A view of the participants attending knowledge sessions at the FDDI Knowledge Forum



Felicitations of emerging designers by dignitaries to bring fresh ideas and innovation to the footwear sector



certification, AI in footwear, sustainability, circular manufacturing and global competitiveness.

The Footwear Design Hackathon emerged as a key highlight of FDDI's participation at IIFF 2026, attracting 100+ entries from emerging designers and providing a platform to develop innovative



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concepts and fresh perspectives in footwear design. The Knowledge Forum featured 10 sessions over three days, with experts and representatives from FDDI, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Government of Bihar, QCI, NABL, Kothari Industrial Corporation, Magic Moda and QMS contributing to meaningful knowledge exchange and industry-academia engagement.

The initiative strengthened FDDI's role in fostering design innovation, technology, research and industry collaboration, while encouraging young designers to contribute to the future of a sustainable, technology-driven and globally competitive Indian footwear industry.

Shaping India's Footwear Future: FDDI at CII Conclave 2026

FDDI represented the footwear sector at the CII Discussion Forum, New Delhi, centred on the theme "Transforming India's Footwear Industry: Strengthening Manufacturing, Expanding Global Markets and Building Resilience."

The session held on 20 August 2026 was opened by Shri V. Noushad, Chairman, CII Task Force on Footwear and Managing Director, Walkaroo International, who emphasised the need for policy support, investment, quality enhancement and technology adoption to build a resilient and sustainable domestic footwear value chain. He also called for a unified, data-driven National Footwear Vision for the next 10 years to position India as a trusted global footwear hub.



Shri V. Noushad, Chairman, CII Task Force on Footwear and Managing Director, Walkaroo International addressing the gathering during the conclave

Building on this vision, Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI, delivered the keynote address on "A Vision for India's Footwear Sector", outlining a roadmap towards 2035. He highlighted the need to move from fragmented interventions towards an integrated national strategy, with four key shifts: Volume to Value, Fragments to Ecosystem, Compliance to Excellence, and Domestic Scale to Global Competitiveness. He further stressed the importance of strengthening the entire value chain encompassing materials, components, design, technology, testing and logistics, while equipping MSMEs with automation, CAD/CAM, AI and advanced skills alongside traditional craftsmanship.

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- From Classroom to Campus: St. Karen's Students Explore FDDI Patna;
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- FDDI Ankleshwar Showcases Industry-Oriented Skill Education to CBSE Principals.



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Shri Sharma also reiterated FDDI's commitment to serving as a national integrating platform, connecting policy, industry, academia and data through its 12-campus network to support skilling, innovation, technology adoption and industry development.



Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI, delivering the keynote address



Shri Sanjay Gupta, President, IFCOMA sharing his views

During the discussion, Shri Sanjay Gupta, President, IFCOMA, proposed a comprehensive assessment of India's domestic capacity for footwear components, accessories and raw materials. The proposed exercise would map current production against demand, assess manufacturing capacity and capabilities for future requirements, identify critical inputs required for component production, and examine the need for a dedicated policy framework for footwear machinery.



Team FDDI along with other dignitaries at the conclave

The FDDI delegation comprised Ms. Rashmi Asthana, Head – International Testing Centre; Mr. Prashant Kumar Saxena, Head – Business Development; Mr. Neeraj Sharma, Head – School of Footwear Design & Production; Mr. Sharad Srivastava, Joint Director – Centre of Excellence; Ms. Shraddha Tripathy, Head – Placement; and Mr. Anirudh Sharma, Associate Head – ITC.



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The conclave provided a valuable platform for industry stakeholders to deliberate on the future of India's footwear sector and reinforced the importance of collaborative, data-driven and technology-enabled strategies. As India moves towards 2035, FDDI remains committed to supporting the transformation of the sector into a globally competitive, innovative and value-driven footwear ecosystem.

FDDI & BPR&D Sign MoU to Advance Indigenous Solutions for Police Forces

FDDI has signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, to promote the development of innovative and indigenous solutions for India's police and central armed police forces.



A view of MoU exchange

The collaboration was undertaken under the guidance of Shri Alok Mittal, IPS, Director General, BPR&D; Shri Gopesh Agrawal, IPS, Director (Modernization), BPR&D; and Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI on 4 August 2026.

The collaborative efforts were supported by Mr. Prashant Kumar Saxena, Business Head, FDDI HQ; Ms. Rashmi Asthana, Head, ITC, FDDI HQ; Ms. Usha Rangnani, IPS, DIG (Modernization), BPR&D; and Shri K. L. Puri, SP (Modernization), BPR&D.

Under the partnership, FDDI will contribute its expertise in Research & Development, the One Nation One Uniform initiative, sustainable product development, testing and certification, prototyping, and innovation.

The MoU marks an important step towards strengthening Atmanirbhar Bharat by fostering indigenous product development, quality assurance, standardisation, and evidence-based innovation for the nation's security ecosystem.

Through this collaboration, FDDI and BPR&D will work together to develop next-generation indigenous solutions aimed at enhancing the safety, performance, comfort, and operational readiness of India's police and central armed police forces.

FDDI Launches Doctoral Programme at Navonmesh 2026

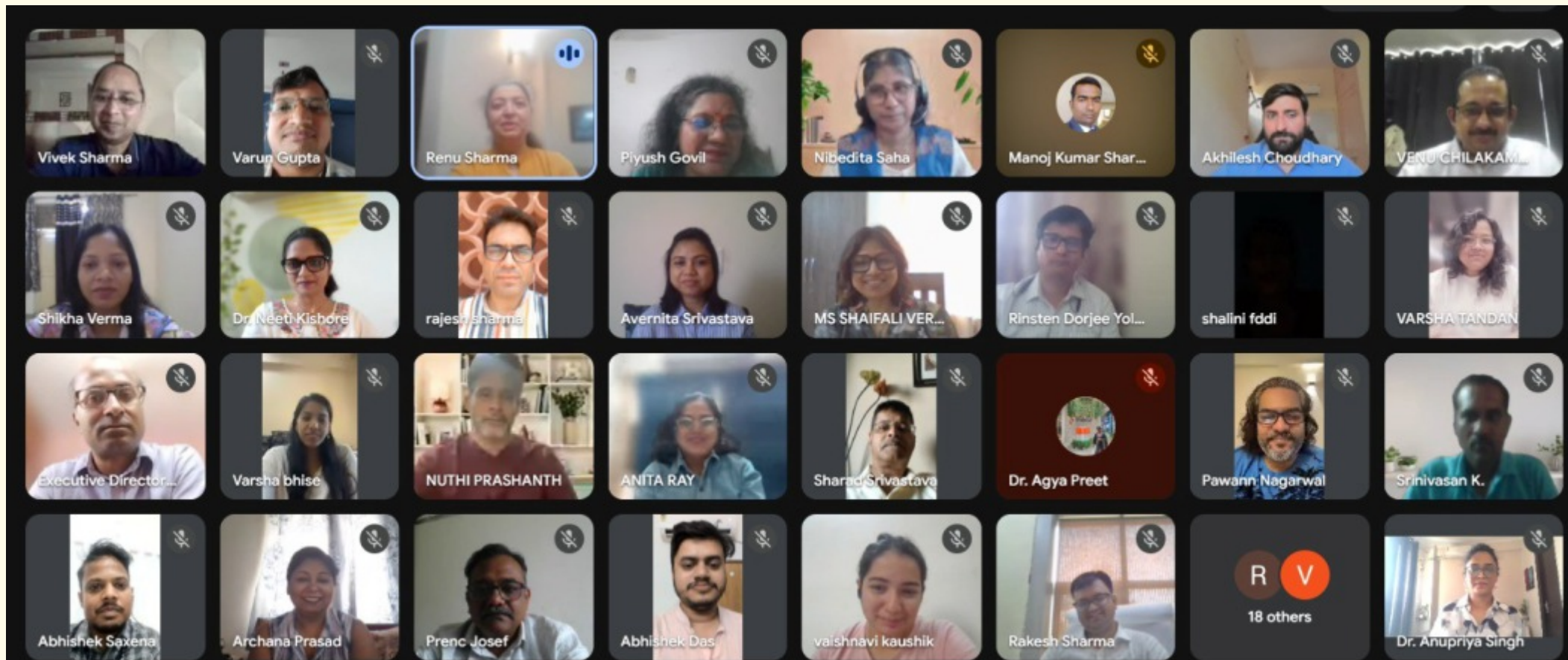
On 22 August 2026, FDDI marked a significant milestone in its academic journey with the inauguration of Navonmesh 2026, heralding the launch of its dedicated PhD Programme focused on applied research, cross-sector collaboration, and sustainable innovation.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI, highlighted the institute's distinctive academic spectrum, which now extends from foundational skill development to doctoral-level research. He emphasised the role of FDDI in nurturing scholars who can emerge as high-impact problem solvers and contribute meaningfully to industry and society.



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The doctoral programme is designed to advance research across specialised domains including Footwear, Leather, Fashion, and Retail, with a strong focus on sustainable innovation, smart manufacturing, emerging technologies, and global competitiveness.



Screenshot of the participants attending the inauguration session of Navonmesh 2026

The event featured insightful perspectives from distinguished academic and industry experts, including Dr. Nibedita Saha, Assistant Professor, Tomas Bata University, Czech Republic; Dr. Sangita Garg, IHFC, Technology Innovation Hub of IIT Delhi; and Ms. Shalini Gupta, Head of R&D, Mirza International Limited and FDDI alumnus.

The inaugural PhD cohort of FDDI also joined the institute, presenting their research vision and aspirations for advancing industry-focused design, technology, and innovation.

A structured academic roadmap was outlined for the scholars, incorporating regular weekly research sessions, Departmental Research Committee (DRC) reviews, and an upcoming Campus Immersion Programme at FDDI Noida.

With the launch of its PhD Programme, FDDI has taken a significant step towards strengthening its research ecosystem and creating a platform for advanced knowledge, indigenous innovation, and sustainable solutions for the future of the footwear, leather, fashion, and retail sectors.

FDDI Empowers Students with Professional Mindset & Workplace Skills

FDDI's Placement & Career Readiness Training Session brought together students from all 12 campuses and all four Schools namely, Footwear Design and Production, Fashion Design, Leather Goods & Accessories, and Retail & Fashion Merchandise through the Centralized Digital Classroom for an engaging session on Professional Mindset and Workplace Etiquette.

The session held on 14 August 2026 commenced with an inspiring address by Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director, FDDI, who encouraged students to embrace continuous learning, professional excellence and a future-focused mindset as they prepare to enter the professional world.



Top Left (Screen shot): Shri Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI sharing his views



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Led by Mr. Nitin, Skill Development & Industry Readiness Expert, the session focused on key attributes of successful professionals, including effective communication, professional behaviour, a positive attitude, adaptability, self-awareness and workplace readiness. Through interactive discussions and practical exercises, students reflected on their strengths, identified areas for improvement and explored how professional conduct and the right mindset can shape their long-term careers.



Students attending the Placement & Career Readiness Training Session

The session was designed to strengthen employability, develop professional competencies and bridge the gap between academic learning and industry expectations. The initiative reinforces an important message: career readiness is not merely about securing a job, but about building the skills, mindset and confidence to thrive in the professional world.

FDDI Joins Nationwide #CatchTheRain Campaign for Water Conservation

FDDI actively participated in the Nationwide #CatchTheRain Campaign, conducted from 04 July to 04 August 2026, in support of the Government of India's efforts towards water conservation and sustainable water management. The campaign focused on promoting rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, responsible water usage and environmental awareness among students, faculty members, officers and employees across FDDI campuses.



Students at FDDI, Chennai Campus along with their drawings made on the theme of CatchTheRain Campaign



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As part of the campaign, FDDI campuses organised a range of awareness programmes, drawing and poster-making competitions, water conservation pledge ceremonies, and practical water management activities.



Employees and students taking pledge at FDDI, Hyderabad Campus

Awareness sessions sensitised the FDDI community to the importance of conserving every drop of water and highlighted the campaign theme, “Catch the Rain – Where it Falls, When it Falls.” Students actively participated in creative competitions on themes such as rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, water conservation and environmental sustainability, with selected artworks displayed across campuses to reinforce the message of responsible water use.



Participants attending awareness session at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus

In addition to awareness activities, campuses undertook practical measures including inspection and maintenance of existing rainwater harvesting systems, cleaning and desilting of recharge pits and drainage channels, restoration of rooftop rainwater outlets, improvement of storm-water drainage systems, and reuse of air-conditioner discharge water for gardening wherever feasible. Feasibility assessments were also undertaken for the installation or strengthening of rainwater harvesting systems at campuses wherever required.



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The campaign witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, officers, employees and support staff, fostering a collective sense of responsibility towards water conservation and environmental protection. The initiatives contributed to enhanced awareness of sustainable water practices, strengthened existing water conservation infrastructure, and identified opportunities for future rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge measures.



Rainwater harvesting at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus



Rainwater harvesting pit at FDDI, Rohtak Campus

Through its active participation in the #CatchTheRain Campaign, FDDI reaffirmed its commitment to water conservation, environmental sustainability and responsible resource management, while supporting the Government of India's vision of building a sustainable and environmentally conscious society.

FDDI Celebrates National Sports Day 2026 with Fitness, Teamwork & Sportsmanship

FDDI celebrated National Sports Day 2026 across all its campuses from 28 to 30 August 2026.



Students playing Carrom at FDDI, Hyderabad Campus



Students playing Chess at FDDI, Rohtak Campus

The three-day campaign promoted physical fitness, teamwork, discipline, leadership and healthy living, bringing together students, faculty members, officers and staff through a wide range of sporting and wellness activities.



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The celebrations featured a diverse range of outdoor, indoor and fitness activities, including the Fit India Pledge and tributes to Major Dhyan Chand, athletic events such as 50m and 100m sprints, walkathons, running challenges and marathon runs, as well as team sports including Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Throwball, Tug of War and Kho-Kho. Participants also enthusiastically took part in fun and inclusive races such as Spoon Race, Three-Legged Race, Backward Race, Book Balancing Race and Blindfolded Race.

Indoor competitions in Carrom, Table Tennis and Chess promoted concentration, strategic thinking and healthy competition, while free-hand exercises, guided fitness walks, cycling drives, skipping challenges and wellness sessions encouraged regular physical activity and healthy living among students and employees.

The campaign witnessed enthusiastic and inclusive participation from students and employees across FDDI campuses. Beyond promoting physical fitness, the activities fostered team spirit, camaraderie, discipline, perseverance, resilience and fair play.



Students playing Volleyball at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus



Students playing Football at FDDI, Chennai Campus

The celebrations also provided an opportunity to pay tribute to Major Dhyan Chand and reinforce the values of sportsmanship, dedication and national pride.

Through the successful observance of National Sports Day 2026, FDDI reaffirmed its commitment to holistic development, employee and student well-being, and institutional excellence, while actively supporting national initiatives of DPIIT and the Government of India.

6th Convocation at FDDI Hyderabad: Graduates Encouraged to Lead with AI, Ethics & Innovation

FDDI, Hyderabad, celebrated its 6th Convocation Ceremony on 5 August 2026, marking a significant milestone in the academic journey of its graduating students. Dr. Malini Divakala, Director, NIFT Hyderabad, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

The ceremony featured the ceremonial lamp lighting, welcome address, felicitation, Presidential Address, oath ceremony, Chief Guest's address, and presentation of medals to meritorious students.

In her address, Dr. Malini Divakala encouraged graduates to enter the professional world with confidence, adaptability, creativity, and a commitment to lifelong learning. Emphasising the rapidly evolving landscape of design and technology, she urged students to embrace Artificial Intelligence (AI) and emerging digital tools as enablers of creativity, productivity, and problem-solving, while using technology responsibly and ethically.

Dr. Narsimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director, FDDI Hyderabad, encouraged the graduating students to build their careers with discipline, integrity, responsibility, and professional commitment, while continuously upgrading their knowledge and skills to meet changing industry requirements.



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A total of 56 students from the Schools of Fashion, Footwear, Leather Lifestyle and Product Design were recognised for their academic achievements. The occasion also witnessed the presentation of Gold and Silver Medals for outstanding academic performance.



Graduating students along with the dignitaries

Students Detail			
Sr. No.	Programme	Session	No. of Students
1	B.Des. Fashion Design (FD)	2022-2026	28
2	B.Des. Footwear Design & Production (FDP)	2022-2026	14
3	B.Des. Leather Lifestyle & Product Design (LLPD)	2022-2026	10
4	M.Des. Fashion Design (FD)	2022-2024	04
TOTAL			56

Details of the Meritorious Achievers		
Programme	Medal	Name of Students
B.Des - FD	Gold & Silver	Ishika Bhardwaj
B.Des - FDP	Silver	Poojaleskhmi S.
B.Des - LLPD	Silver	Benecia Mariam Babu
M.Des - FD	Gold & Silver	Sailashmi Diddi

The convocation celebrated not only academic excellence but also the transition of students into responsible, ethical, and future-ready professionals, equipped to contribute to the evolving footwear, fashion, design, and lifestyle sectors.

FDDI Fursatganj and DSMNRU Sign MoU to Advance Inclusive Innovation

FDDI, Fursatganj, and Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University (DSMNRU), Lucknow, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 02 June 2026, marking a significant step towards empowering persons with disabilities and enhancing their quality of life.

On behalf of FDDI, Mr. Sunil Kumar Dwivedi Executive Director, Fursatganj signed the MoU, whereas on behalf of DSMNRU, it was signed by Professor Sanjay Singh, Vice-Chancellor.

The collaboration aims to foster research, innovation and advanced product development in the fields of footwear,



A view of MoU exchange

fashion and retail, with a special focus on developing inclusive and accessible solutions.



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Through joint research initiatives, technical expertise and knowledge sharing, the partnership will create opportunities for leveraging the strengths of both institutions to address the needs of persons with disabilities.

The MoU represents a meaningful convergence of education, research, design and innovation, opening new avenues for inclusive growth and development. The collaboration reflects the shared commitment of FDDI and DSMNRU towards building a more accessible, inclusive and empowered society, while contributing to the broader vision of Viksit Bharat.

Global Expertise Meets Indian Industry: MIND CAD Workshop at FDDI

FDDI organised a one-day International MIND CAD Workshop for industry professionals on 31 August 2026, in collaboration with MIND CAD, Portugal. The workshop provided a valuable platform for industry personnel to engage with international experts and gain insights into advanced digital technologies, contemporary footwear design practices, and evolving global industry trends.

The workshop featured Mr. Fernando Vasconcelos, Sales and Marketing Director, and Mr. Tiago Monteiro, International Business Developer, MIND CAD, Portugal, who shared their expertise on digital footwear design solutions and industry-oriented applications. Their interaction with participants provided valuable perspectives on the role of technology and digitalisation in enhancing creativity, efficiency, product development, and competitiveness across the footwear value chain.



Distinguished professionals from the footwear industry attending the workshop

The workshop was attended by distinguished professionals from the footwear industry, including Mr. Naveen Singh Bhandari, Manager, Global Creation; Mr. Jashandeep Singh, Junior Designer, Brune and Bareskin; Mr. Biplab Bhattacharjee, Founder, Ravvani Exports LLP; Mr. Niraj Shah, Footwear Industry Consultant, NSA; Mr. Mohd Danish, Product Development Team, Excellent; Mr. Rahul Daga, Director – Product Development, Rajyarekha Trade (P) Ltd.; Mr. Sawan Aggarwal, Director – Product Development, Rivaldo Fashions; Mr. Wajahat Khan, Product Development, Gloriace Footwear; Mr. Amit Bansal, Managing Director, Shri Satguru Plastic (Shoes Manufacturer); Mr. Khem Rai, Manager – Product Development, Spykar Shoes; Mr. Irfan, CEO, Misco Trading; Mr. Mahesh Kumar, Production Manager & Product Development, Aero Industries; Mr. Subhash Sharma, Product Development Team, Indian Plastic; Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Product Development Head, Abros International; Mr. Jasbir Singh, General Manager, Ampersand Design; Mr. Avdesh, Designer, Sarita Grading; Mr. Chanderkant, Designer, TRV; Mr. Rocky, Procurement Manager, Calcetto Activewear; Mr. Naredra Solanki, Mr. Alok Punj, Mr. Pranay and Mr. Ramakant, GSB Footwear; Mr. Rajesh Singh and Mr. Rehan, Costing & Commercial, Relaxo Footwear; Mr. Upendra Maurya, Mr. Vipin Chandra and Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, Relaxo Footwear; and Mr. Abdul Tawab Khan, Footwear Designer, Dev Industry Expert.

The participation of professionals representing diverse functions across product development, footwear design, costing, commercial operations, and industry consultancy enriched the discussions and facilitated meaningful exchange of knowledge and experiences. The workshop also provided an opportunity for participants to understand international digital footwear design practices and explore the potential of advanced technology in addressing the emerging needs of the industry.



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The engagement served as a significant platform for innovation, skill enhancement, professional networking, and global knowledge exchange, further strengthening the connect between academia, industry, and international technology experts. The interaction with MIND CAD, Portugal, also reinforced the importance of international collaboration in facilitating technology exposure and building industry-ready capabilities.

FDDI Advances Digital Footwear Design through International MIND CAD Workshop

FDDI successfully conducted the International MIND CAD Certification Workshop in collaboration with MIND CAD, Portugal from 24 to 31 August 2026 that provided the students with an enriching platform to explore advanced digital footwear design and industry-oriented applications.

The workshop was led by Mr. Paulo Coelho, Product Specialist, MIND CAD, who provided participants with valuable insights into contemporary digital footwear design technologies and professional practices.

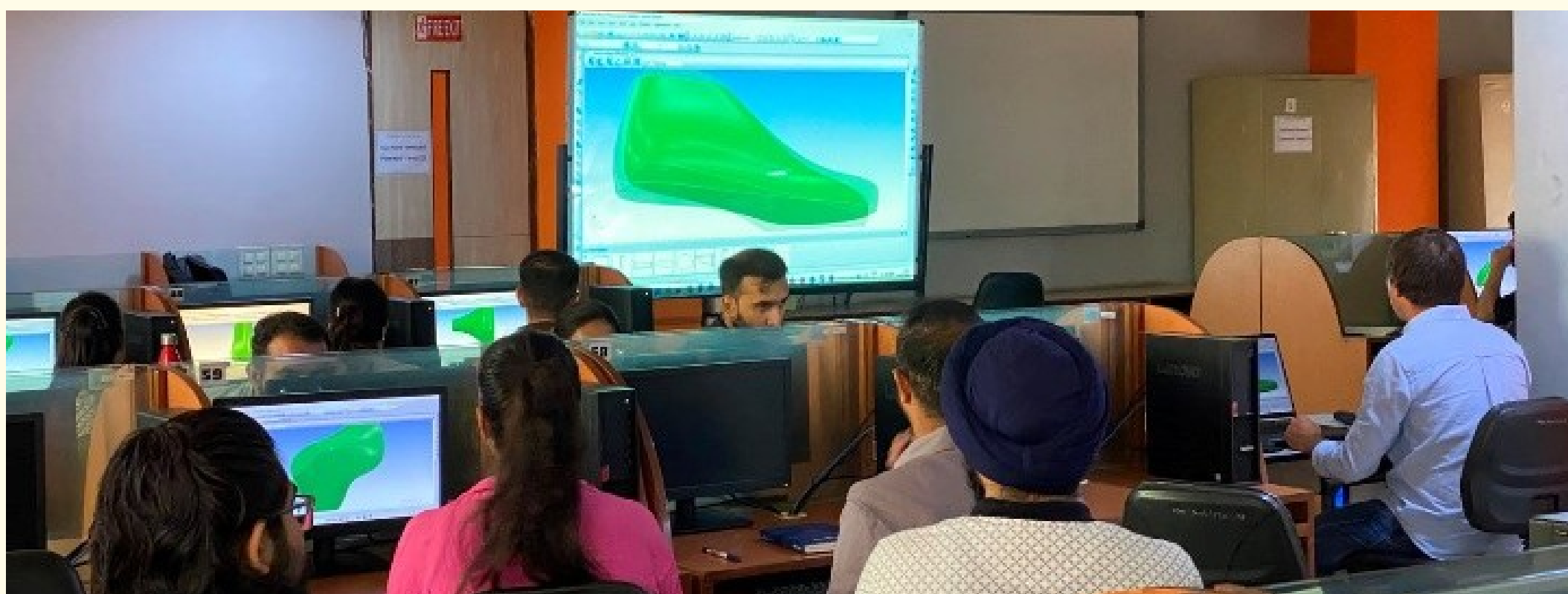
Through a combination of hands-on learning, technical demonstrations, knowledge sharing, and industry interaction, participants gained practical exposure to digital tools and workflows relevant to the evolving footwear industry.

Final-year undergraduate and postgraduate students of the School of Footwear Design &

Production (FDP) actively participated in the workshop, benefiting from direct interaction with an international technology expert and gaining a deeper understanding of the role of digital technologies in modern footwear design and development.



Mr. Paulo Coelho, Product Specialist, MIND CAD explaining about digital footwear design technologies



Students attending the MIND CAD Certification Workshop

The workshop served as a significant platform for innovation and skill enhancement.



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FDDI Hyderabad Students Gain Industry Insights at SportExpo India 2026

Students from all batches of the Footwear Design and Production (FDP) programme, including DGR students, along with faculty members of FDDI Hyderabad, visited SportExpo India 2026 on 28–29 August 2026 at Hall 2, HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad.

The visit provided valuable first-hand exposure to the evolving sports, footwear, fitness and lifestyle industry. Students explored a diverse range of sports footwear, performance products, accessories, wearable technologies and innovative product solutions showcased by leading exhibitors.

A key highlight was the opportunity to interact with footwear and sports industry professionals, gaining insights into sports footwear design, cushioning and stability technologies, performance features, materials, product development and changing consumer preferences.



Interaction with reputed footwear and sports brands



Exposure to VR and other innovative experiential technologies

Students also experienced emerging technologies, including Virtual Reality (VR), and explored innovations in sports performance, fitness and recovery. These experiences helped bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world industry applications.

Faculty interactions with exhibitors further provided insights into emerging trends, technological advancements and potential opportunities for industry–academia collaboration.

Overall, the visit enriched students' understanding of the sports footwear ecosystem, product innovation, performance technologies, merchandising and brand communication, while strengthening their engagement with the professional footwear and sports industry.

From Industry Expertise to Student Success: FDDI Strengthens Career Readiness

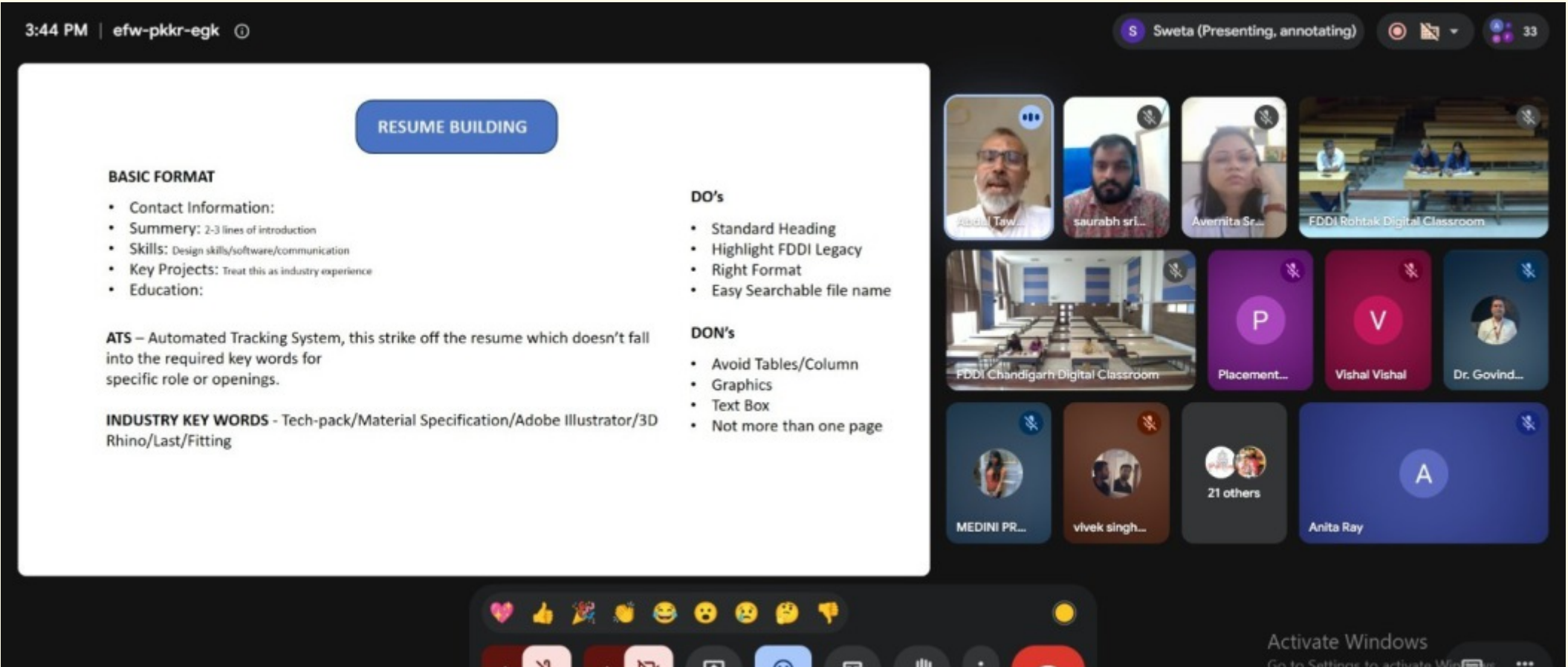
As part of FDDI's continued efforts to strengthen career readiness and placement preparedness, the Placement Cell organised a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on 27 August 2026 for Internal Faculty Mentors representing all 12 FDDI campuses.

The programme was led by Mr. Abdul Khan, Industry Expert & Mentor, Head of Design, Product Creation, Development, Sourcing, Category & Leadership, who provided valuable industry-oriented guidance on key aspects of professional development, including resume building, portfolio presentation, LinkedIn excellence, industry project documentation and effective project communication.



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Building on the insights and learning from the FDP, the second Training Session was conducted on 28 August 2026 on the theme “Resume, Portfolio & LinkedIn Excellence – Industry Project Documentation & Presentation Mastery.” The trained FDDI Internal Faculty Mentors subsequently delivered the session across campuses, following a common, structured and industry-aligned framework to ensure consistency in career guidance and professional grooming.



Mr. Abdul Khan, Industry Expert & Mentor, Head of Design, Product Creation, Development, Sourcing, Category & Leadership making a presentation during the session

The sessions equipped students with practical approaches to developing industry-ready resumes, impactful portfolios and compelling LinkedIn profiles. Particular emphasis was placed on effectively documenting and presenting academic and industry projects, clearly communicating individual contributions, showcasing relevant skills and achievements, and presenting work in a manner aligned with industry expectations.

Jug-Jug Jiyo: FDDI Patna Spreads Awareness on Organ Donation

On the occasion of the 16th Indian Organ Donation Day, FDDI Patna organised an Organ Donation Awareness Programme under the “Jug-Jug Jiyo Abhiyan”, with the objective of sensitising students and employees about the importance of organ donation and encouraging a positive and informed attitude towards this noble cause.



Students attending the session being conducted by Ms. Rashmi Raj, Representative, Mohan Foundation



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The programme, held on 21 August 2026, featured an informative session by Ms. Rashmi Raj, Representative, Mohan Foundation, who spoke about the significance of organ donation and its potential to give a new lease of life to individuals awaiting transplants. She encouraged the audience to look beyond common misconceptions and social apprehensions surrounding organ donation and highlighted the importance of informed decision-making and spreading awareness within the community.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Patna, emphasised that organ donation represents a profound act of service to humanity. He highlighted how the donation of organs and tissues by one individual can bring hope and transform the lives of several people in need.

The programme encouraged students and employees to become ambassadors of awareness by sharing authentic information, addressing misconceptions, and inspiring others to support the cause. The gathering reinforced the powerful message that a decision to donate organs can offer hope to families facing uncertainty and help give the gift of life to those in need.

IKEA “Back to Campus” Creates an Engaging Experience at FDDI Hyderabad

FDDI Hyderabad successfully hosted the “IKEA Back to Campus” activation on 20–21 August 2026, offering students an engaging and interactive experience focused on student lifestyle, hostel essentials, study spaces and everyday living solutions.

The two-day activation featured a 20 ft × 20 ft IKEA pop-up experience zone, where students explored a curated range of products across storage and organisation, student living and everyday essentials.



Students engaging with the IKEA product experience and interactive activation activities.

The initiative, undertaken in valuable collaboration with Mr. Aryan Sandur, IKEA Marketing Representative, and AAX Gaming, the campaign's execution agency, provided students with meaningful exposure to product presentation, customer engagement, retail experience and brand communication, while demonstrating how thoughtful design and functional solutions can contribute to creating comfortable, organised and efficient living and study spaces.

The activation also featured a photo booth, creative art gallery, student vouchers, coupons and branded merchandise, encouraging active participation. On the second day, Mr. Aryan Sandur, IKEA Marketing Representative, conducted a special student engagement activity, with participating students recognised for their performance.

The initiative reflects FDDI Hyderabad's commitment to experiential learning and meaningful industry-campus engagement, providing students with practical exposure to contemporary retail and consumer experiences.



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FDDI Faculty Member Serves as Resource Person at National Seminar on Emerging Fashion Trends

Ms. Archana Prasad, Senior Faculty Grade II, School of Fashion Design, FDDI Hyderabad, served as a Resource Person at the National Seminar on “Emerging Trends in Fashion, Food and Film”, organised by the Department of Costume Design and Fashion, School of Creative Sciences, Nehru Arts and Science College (Autonomous), Coimbatore, on 20 August 2026.

During her session, Ms. Archana Prasad shared insights into key developments shaping the future of fashion, including Artificial Intelligence, sustainability and circularity, innovative materials, digital fashion, wearable technology, personalisation, and evolving consumer behaviour.

She also highlighted the changing role of future fashion designers, emphasising the need to integrate creativity, technology, research, sustainability, collaboration, and critical thinking into contemporary design practice.



Ms. Archana Prasad taking the session

The session provided students with valuable perspectives on emerging opportunities in the fashion industry and encouraged them to embrace innovation while adopting responsible and sustainable approaches to design. The participation reflects FDDI's continued commitment to academic outreach, knowledge sharing, and industry-oriented learning.

PIB Vijayawada Media Delegates Visit FDDI Jodhpur

A delegation of media representatives from the Press Information Bureau (PIB), Vijayawada, visited FDDI Jodhpur Campus on 19 August 2026. The visit provided an opportunity for the delegates to gain first-hand insight into FDDI's academic ecosystem, institutional strengths, and contributions to the Footwear, Fashion, and Retail sectors.



PIB Media Delegates during the interactive session with FDDI Jodhpur officials

The delegates were introduced to FDDI's industry-oriented curriculum, advanced laboratories, CAD-CAM facilities, and practice-based learning environment. The Institute's emphasis on internships, live industry projects, technical exposure, and hands-on training was also highlighted as an integral part of its approach to preparing students for professional careers.

During the visit, the delegates were apprised of FDDI's distinctive position as an Institute of National Importance, with discussions highlighting its strong industry linkages, skill-based education, research and innovation, and academic excellence. The interaction also provided an overview of the Institute's role in developing skilled human resources and supporting the evolving requirements of the Indian and global footwear and allied industries.

Hans India FDDI opens global career pathways for students

NARISH NANDAM
JODHPUR

YOUNG people aspiring to build careers with global brands such as Louis Vuitton, Adidas, Zara and Tata are finding a promising pathway through the Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), which is preparing hundreds of students every year for opportunities in the international fashion, footwear and retail industries.

FDDI functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and enjoys the status of an Institution of National Importance (INI), on par with institutions such as IITs and IIMs. It offers programmes in footwear design, fashion, leather and lifestyle product design, retail merchandising and management.

Speaking to media representatives from Andhra Pradesh, FDDI Jodhpur Executive Director Anil Kumar said students graduating from the institute gain not only academic qualifications but also practical skills needed to meet real-world industry requirements. He said the footwear and fashion sectors are expanding rapidly across design, manufacturing, retail, e-commerce, digital technology and entrepreneurship. FDDI Jodhpur equips students with advanced laboratories, CAD-CAM facilities, AI-based technologies, a Centre of Excellence and project-based learning. The institute's modern 20-acre Jodhpur campus features smart classrooms, advanced laboratories and hostel facilities. Students undertake live projects, professional mentoring, international exchange programmes and industry internships, providing valuable exposure before entering the job market. Anil Kumar said the institute records 88 to over 90 per cent placements annually, with more than 200 national and international companies participating in its placement drives. FDDI Jodhpur alumni have secured positions with leading brands including Tita, Adidas, Zara, H&M, Tommy Hilfiger, Louis Vuitton, Decathlon and Bata. Established in 1986, FDDI received INI status in 2017 and currently operates 12 campuses across India. It also provides training and consultancy services in several countries, including Ethiopia, South Africa, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. PIB officials Ramesh Chandra Raviapuli, Varagani Upender and Hitesh Suthar, PIB Jodhpur officer Adish Verma, FDDI scientist Dr. Koushi Dutta and others participated in the programme.

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Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Jodhpur



FDDI Jodhpur executive director Anil Kumar

Media coverage



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FDDI Fursatganj Celebrates the Spirit of Patriotism with Tiranga Yatra

FDDI Fursatganj successfully organized a Tiranga Yatra on 14 August 2026 under the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign, celebrating the spirit of patriotism, unity and pride in the nation.

On the occasion, Mr. Vishwanath Ji, Vice Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Scheduled Caste Finance & Development Corporation and Minister of State (Rank), graced the event as the Special Guest and participated in the Tiranga Yatra.



A view of the Tiranga Yatra

The Yatra commenced from the FDDI Fursatganj Campus and proceeded to the Fursatganj Police Station, witnessing enthusiastic participation from the Institute's officers, staff members and students. The event reflected a strong spirit of patriotism, national unity and love for the nation, as members of the FDDI fraternity came together to honour and celebrate the pride and glory of the Tricolour.

FDDI Patna Organises Seminar on Mental Health

On the eve of the country's 80th Independence Day, FDDI Patna organised a seminar on "Mental Health and De-addiction", with the objective of promoting mental well-being, spiritual development, self-awareness, and a positive lifestyle among students and staff members.



A view of the participants of the seminar



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The programme held on 14 August 2026 was organised with the support of B.K. Sujata Didi and her team from Prajapita Brahma Kumari Ishwariya University. Mr. Dharmendra Choubey, Life Coach and Motivational Speaker, also interacted with the students and staff, sharing valuable insights on the importance of mental peace, self-confidence, positive thinking, and developing a healthy and purposeful approach towards life.

The session encouraged participants to embrace positive lifestyle changes through stress management, mental balance, self-discipline, and spiritual awareness. Particular emphasis was placed on understanding the harmful consequences of substance abuse and the importance of making informed and responsible choices. The speakers also highlighted the vital role of young people in contributing to the vision of a healthy, empowered, and drug-free India.

Welcoming the guests at the beginning of the programme, Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Patna, expressed his appreciation for the initiative and emphasised the importance of programmes that address the holistic development of students and staff.

The seminar provided an engaging platform for reflection, awareness, and meaningful interaction, encouraging participants to prioritise mental health, inner harmony, positive thinking, and a life free from substance dependence.

FDDI Jodhpur Promotes Theatre and Cultural Expression through Silent Exodus

FDDI Jodhpur witnessed a memorable and thought-provoking theatrical evening on 14 August 2026 with the final performance of "Silent Exodus", organised by the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi, in collaboration with Abhinav Gurukul, Jodhpur, and Mrs. Swati Vyas. The play was staged at the FDDI Auditorium, offering the audience an immersive experience that beautifully brought together powerful storytelling, compelling performances, and profound human emotions.



A view of the performance

Through its evocative narrative and impactful performances, Silent Exodus explored themes that resonated deeply with the audience, leaving them reflective and emotionally engaged. The production demonstrated the power of theatre to communicate meaningful messages, evoke empathy, and connect people through shared human experiences.

The artistes delivered nuanced and captivating performances, complemented by expressive storytelling and an engaging theatrical presentation. The performance not only showcased the richness and versatility of theatre but also created a meaningful cultural experience for the FDDI community.



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Melodies of Compassion and Companionship at FDDI Jodhpur

FDDI Jodhpur hosted a soulful musical evening, “Magic of Old Bollywood Songs,” in association with a local NGO in Jodhpur on 08 August 2026. The event brought the timeless charm of Bollywood's golden era to life through melodious renditions of evergreen classics by talented artists.

दैनिक नवज्योति

मीनल जैन की सुरमयी प्रस्तुतियों पर
झूमे शहरवासी, अनुबंध वृद्धाश्रम की
सेवा यात्रा को किया याद



जोधपुर/ नवज्योति। निराश्रित बुजुर्गों की सेवा के 25वें वर्ष में प्रवेश पर अनुबंध ए होम फॉर द एज्ड की ओर से मंदोर रोड स्थित एफडीडीआई ऑडिटोरियम में 'मैजिक ऑफ ओल्ड बॉलीवुड सॉन्ग्स' सांस्कृतिक संध्या आयोजित की गई। मुंबई की प्रसिद्ध पार्श्व गायिका मीनल जैन ने सदाबहार हिंदी फिल्मों गीतों की प्रस्तुतियों से श्रोताओं को पुराने दौर की यादों में पहुँचा दिया। मीनल जैन ने सलोना सा सज्जन है, बया ना धरो बलमा, अगर मुझसे मोहब्बत है और जरा सी आहट होती... जैसे गीत प्रस्तुत किए। उनकी गायकी पर दर्शकों ने तालियों से उत्साह बढ़ाया। नाद रश बैंड की प्रस्तुति ने भी कार्यक्रम में ऊर्जा भर दी।

अनुराधा-नरेंद्र आडवाणी ने बताया कि संस्था पिछले 24 वर्षों से निराश्रित और जरूरतमंद बुजुर्गों की आश्रय, भोजन, चिकित्सा, देखभाल और सम्मानजनक जीवन उपलब्ध करा रही है। 25वें वर्ष में प्रवेश का यह आयोजन इसी सेवा यात्रा को समर्पित रहा।

कार्यक्रम में महावीर कुंती देवड़ा, डॉ. निर्मल मेहता, तरुण मेहता, मनीष मेहता, डॉ. तरुण कंठ, डॉ. डी. कुमार, अनिल कुमार, डॉ. संगीता सिंह, डॉ. ओम लता भगत, डॉ. विश्वनाथ शर्मा और डॉ. अर्पित देलर सहित कई गणमान्य लोग मौजूद रहे। मंच संचालन राकेश चौहान और प्रियंका ने किया। आयोजन में एफडीडीआई, नाद रश और राजन

Media coverage



A view of the performance by an artist

The nostalgic melodies created a warm and joyful atmosphere, offering senior citizens an evening of music, memories, companionship, and shared moments.

The programme was attended by dignitaries, faculty members, staff, and music enthusiasts, who came together to celebrate the enduring appeal of classic Bollywood music.

Beyond entertainment, the initiative reflected FDDI Jodhpur's continued commitment to social responsibility and meaningful community engagement.

The evening provided an opportunity to foster connection and togetherness, demonstrating how music can transcend generations and bring people closer.

FDDI Campuses Celebrate National Handloom Day with Heritage and Innovation

FDDI celebrated National Handloom Day with vibrant programmes highlighting India's rich handloom heritage, traditional craftsmanship and the enduring contribution of weavers and artisans to the country's cultural and fashion landscape.

At FDDI Patna, a Fashion Show Competition was organised on 07 August 2026, where students creatively showcased diverse Indian textile traditions through contemporary styling and modern design perspectives. The showcase featured exquisite handlooms including Khadi, Banarasi, Chanderi, Tussar and Ikat, demonstrating how traditional textiles can be reimagined for contemporary fashion while preserving their distinctive cultural identity and craftsmanship. Students also shared their perspectives on the significance of handloom, emphasising its role as a repository of tradition, identity, skills and knowledge passed down through generations.



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Addressing the students and faculty, Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Patna, highlighted the historical significance of National Handloom Day and its connection with the Swadeshi Movement of 1905. He encouraged students to embrace the spirit of “Vocal for Local” and “Aatmanirbhar Bharat” and contribute towards preserving and promoting India's indigenous textile traditions.



FDDI Patna students presenting their collection of traditional handloom ensembles and artistic sarees



FDDI Fursatganj students showcasing traditional and ethnic textiles

At FDDI Fursatganj, the celebrations featured an energetic dance performance, informative presentations on Indian textile crafts, dyeing and printing techniques, and traditional embroidery styles, providing students with insights into the diverse processes, patterns and craftsmanship associated with Indian textiles. A fashion ramp walk was another highlight, showcasing traditional and ethnic textiles through contemporary interpretations and demonstrating the possibilities of integrating India's textile heritage with modern fashion.

The celebrations across both campuses served as a meaningful confluence of heritage, learning, creativity, fashion and innovation, reinforcing the message that India's traditional crafts can gain renewed relevance and global recognition through contemporary design thinking and the creative vision of the next generation.

FDDI Jodhpur Executive Director Addresses BAMS Students at CCBP

Mr. Anil Kumar (AFHQCS), Executive Director, FDDI Jodhpur, had the privilege of addressing the BAMS students of Dr. S.R. Rajasthan Ayurved University (RAU) as the Chief Guest during the Continuing Capacity Building Programme (CCBP) held on 06 August 2026.



Executive Director, FDDI Jodhpur addressing the students



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Addressing the students, Mr. Anil Kumar shared valuable insights and perspectives aimed at encouraging professional excellence, continuous learning, leadership, and holistic development. His interaction with the young learners provided an enriching platform for knowledge sharing and encouraged students to approach their professional journey with confidence, commitment, and a spirit of lifelong learning.

The engagement reflected the importance of capacity building and interdisciplinary interaction in nurturing well-rounded professionals and creating meaningful avenues for learning and collaboration between educational institutions.

FDDI Faculty Member Secures Design Registration for Innovative Travel Pouch with Supporting Accessory

Dr. Rambabu Muppidi, Senior Faculty, School of Fashion Design (FD), FDDI Chennai, Corresponding Author, with Dr. Thunga Yogesh Babu and Mr. Chilakamarry Venu Gopal, Senior Faculty, LLPD and HoD, Department of LLPD, FDDI Hyderabad Campus, as Co-Authors have been granted a design registration by the Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks, Patent Office, Government of India, for his innovative product titled “Travel Pouch with Supporting Accessory.”



Dr. Rambabu Muppidi



Mr. Chilakamarry Venu Gopal



Certificate of Registration of Design

The design application was filed on 23 June 2026 and was officially granted on 7 August 2026. The registered design was published in Patent Office Journal No. 32/2026, dated 7 August 2026, on Page No. 101083.

The innovation emerged from a user-centred field study at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad, and Kacheguda Railway Station, Hyderabad, where Dr. Muppidi and his team interacted with travellers to understand challenges in carrying and accessing essential items.

Their feedback inspired the development of a travel pouch with an integrated supporting accessory, supported by valuable IP guidance from Mr. Subhajit Saha and Mr. Shailendra.

The “Travel Pouch with Supporting Accessory” offers a compact and ergonomic solution for organising travel essentials, enhancing stability, accessibility, portability, and convenience. Designed for potential commercialisation, the product can be developed using leather, synthetic leather,

Design Number	506830-001
Class	03-01
1. Dr. Rambabu Muppidi Sr. Faculty - II, Department of Fashion Design, FDDI, Plot No 17, Bapu Hills, YSR Colony, Secretariat, Manikonda, Telangana - 500008, India 2. Dr. Thunga Yogesh Babu PDF Candidate In Eudoxia Research University, USA ERC- INDIA. Flat No. 304, Venkata Sai Enclave, M C R Colony, Tirupati - 517 501, Andhra Pradesh, India 3. Mr. Chilakamarry Venu Gopal Sr. Faculty-I, Dept of Leather Goods and accessories design, FDDI, Faculty quarters, C - Block, FDDI, Gachibowli, Rai Durg, Hyderabad, 500104, Telangana, India	
Date of Registration	23/06/2026
Title	Travel Pouch with Supporting Accessory
Priority NA	



All Views

Travel Pouch with Supporting Accessory



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

textiles, canvas, recycled materials, and other suitable materials, with scope for customisation and applications across the travel, luggage, lifestyle, and corporate gifting sectors.

From Classroom to Campus: St. Karen's Students Explore FDDI Patna

FDDI Patna hosted an educational visit of 81 Class 10+2 students from St. Karen's Secondary School, accompanied by their teachers, providing the young learners with an opportunity to gain first-hand exposure to the Institute's academic environment and diverse career possibilities.



Students of St. Karen's Secondary School being briefed by a technical expert at FDDI, Patna Campus

During the visit on 4 August 2026, the Heads of Departments (HoDs) at FDDI Patna introduced the students to their respective disciplines and provided insights into the academic programmes offered by the Institute. The students were apprised of FDDI's state-of-the-art laboratories, specialised training facilities, hands-on learning environment, industry-oriented education, and career opportunities across the footwear, fashion, and allied sectors.

The interaction was designed to encourage students to explore career options beyond conventional pathways. The HoDs engaged with the visiting students and responded to their queries, helping them gain a clearer understanding of the programmes, skills, professional roles, and opportunities associated with different fields of study at FDDI.

As part of the campus visit, the students explored the Institute's modern infrastructure, advanced laboratories, and practical learning facilities, gaining a first-hand understanding of how theoretical concepts are complemented by hands-on training and industry exposure. The experience offered them a glimpse into an educational ecosystem where creativity, technology, design, and practical skills come together to prepare students for the professional world.

Addressing the visiting students, Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Patna, encouraged them to give due importance to skill development, innovation, and quality education. He highlighted the world-class academic and training opportunities available at FDDI and encouraged the students to make career choices aligned with their interests, abilities, aptitude, and individual talents.

FDDI CAO Completes Management Development Programme at IIM, Jammu

Mr. Manoj Agarwal, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), FDDI, successfully completed the three-day Management Development Programme (MDP) on "Administrative Excellence in Practice" at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu.



Certificate of Participation



3rd From Left: Mr. Manoj Agarwal, CAO, FDDI receiving the Certificate of Participation



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The group consisted of representatives from Raman Research Institute, O.P. Jindal Global University, The Indian Law Institute, C. V. Raman Global University, IIM Lucknow, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), The Assam Royal Global University, Centre for Development of Telematics, NICMAR University Pune, NIMS University Rajasthan Jaipur, Vivekananda Global University, Institute of Technology and Science Ghaziabad, Mizoram University, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, IIT Kanpur, IIITDM Kurnool, MDI Gurgaon, Sir Padampat Singhania University, Central University of Tamil Nadu, IIT Bombay, Centre For Development of Telematics, IIT Bhubaneswar, IIT Kharagpur.

The immersive programme held from 29 – 31 July 2026, provided valuable insights into contemporary institutional governance, leadership, and administrative practices through a combination of interactive and hands-on learning sessions. Key areas covered included AI-enabled digital administration, Power BI and data-driven decision-making, DigiLocker and ABC-NAD, strategic procurement through GeM, PFMS and financial governance, professional communication, emotional intelligence, and building high-performance teams.

The programme also provided an excellent platform for peer learning and knowledge exchange, bringing together senior representatives and professionals from leading institutions across India, including IITs, IIMs, central universities, research institutions, and other prominent higher education and technical organisations.

The successful completion of the MDP reflects FDDI's continued commitment to capacity building, professional development, digital transformation, and excellence in institutional administration.

FDDI Ankleshwar Showcases Industry-Oriented Skill Education to CBSE Principals

FDDI Ankleshwar hosted an Exposure Visit for CBSE School Principals on 03 July 2026, organised in collaboration with the Department of Skill Education, CBSE, with the objective of strengthening the integration of Skill (Vocational) Education into mainstream schooling.

The programme was graced by eminent dignitaries, including Sh. Rajeev Pandey, Joint Director, Department of Skill Education, CBSE Headquarters; Sh. Satish Kumar Pahal, Joint Director, Department of Skill Education, CBSE Headquarters; Sh. Lalit Prakash, Executive Director, FDDI Ankleshwar; Sh. Dhiren Shah, Managing Director, Favourite Safety Shoes; and Mrs. Michelle Ganeshani, CBSE District Training Coordinator, Bharuch.



Participants of CBSE School Principals

Addressing the gathering, Shri Lalit Prakash, Executive Director, FDDI Ankleshwar, highlighted the Institute's commitment to developing a skilled and future-ready workforce through quality education, innovation and industry collaboration. He emphasised the importance of strengthening vocational education ecosystems that equip students with practical skills and industry-relevant competencies.

The visiting principals toured FDDI's state-of-the-art laboratories, design studios, CAD/CAM facilities, product development centres and manufacturing units, gaining insights into the Institute's industry-oriented academic programmes, infrastructure and experiential learning practices. The visit also provided an opportunity to explore emerging trends, innovations and potential collaborations for promoting skill-based education and career awareness among school students.

The programme concluded with an interactive session involving CBSE officials, school principals and FDDI faculty, focusing on skill-based education, industry-academia linkages and emerging career opportunities. The visit marked a significant step towards strengthening FDDI-CBSE collaboration and advancing the objectives of NEP 2020 by promoting vocational excellence and preparing learners for the evolving demands of the global workforce.