

MARCH 2026

ISSUE NUMBER 24

# waves

Where Every Week Tells A New Story

MODEL: RITWIK MAITY ( FASHION DESIGN DEPARTMENT, 2024 BATCH)  
DESIGNER: PRADEEP SRINIVASTAVA (SLGAD SENIOR FACULTY, FDDI KOLKATA)



# HIGHLIGHTS

**3** **IFROM CLASSROOM TO LUXURY BRAND**  
An Inspiring Session by Ms. Puja Mondal

**4** **LLAKMÉ FASHION WEEK 2026×FDCI**  
FDDI Volunteers at Lakmé Fashion Week

**7** **FASHION BUZZ**

**11** **FASHION QUIZ**

**12** **STUDENT'S CREATION**

**13** **ALUMNI TALK**

# FROM CLASSROOM TO LUXURY BRAND

AN INSPIRING SESSION BY MS. PUJA MONDAL



What does it take to move from a design classroom to a global luxury brand? Students at FDDI Kolkata discovered the answer during an engaging workshop by the School of Leather Goods & Accessories Design (SLGAD) on 20th March 2026. Led by alumna Ms. Puja Mondal, now a Sourcing Associate at Ralph Lauren – Polo Girls, the session offered a real glimpse into the fashion industry.



Sharing her journey from FDDI to working with brands like Next and Ralph Lauren, Ms. Puja Mondal connected strongly with students. Her experiences highlighted how consistency, adaptability, and continuous learning play a crucial role in building a successful career in fashion and sourcing.



The workshop went beyond theory, exploring sourcing, merchandising, and coordination between teams and vendors. A key takeaway stood out—great design alone isn't enough; clear communication is essential for turning ideas into successful products and maintaining smooth professional relationships.





Students also participated in a hands-on design thinking activity, creating brand concepts from scratch, including naming, target audience, and launch strategies. The session not only bridged classroom learning with industry reality but also encouraged students to think beyond design and step confidently toward becoming industry-ready professionals.

# LAKMÉ FASHION WEEK 2026×FDCI

## FDDI VOLUNTEERS AT LAKMÉ FASHION WEEK



Lakmé Fashion Week is the commercial heart of the Indian fashion industry, and serving as a volunteer at the Pankaj & Nidhi stall offered me a direct look at the business of luxury. While the runway provides the spectacle, the stall is where the brand connects with buyers, stylists, and VIP clients. My role was to support this professional environment by ensuring the brand's high standards of presentation and hospitality were met at all times.





I served as a volunteer at the Pankaj & Nidhi stall during Lakmé Fashion Week, moving beyond the runway to focus on the commercial side of fashion. My goal was to support the brand's presence in a high-traffic environment where business, networking, and luxury retail intersect.

The experience was a masterclass in industry networking. I assisted with client interactions, managed inquiries, and observed how a toptier label navigates the bridge between creative design and commercial sales. It required a deep understanding of the collection to communicate the brand's value to industry experts.

This opportunity taught me that a fashion brand's success relies as much on professional logistics as it does on design. Managing a luxury stall at a national level sharpened my communication skills and gave me a firsthand look at the discipline required to succeed in the business of fashion.

– Saheli Ghosh

Fashion Design Department

2023 Batch



*good  
good  
good*

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**fashion**

**buzz**

**buzz**

**buzz**

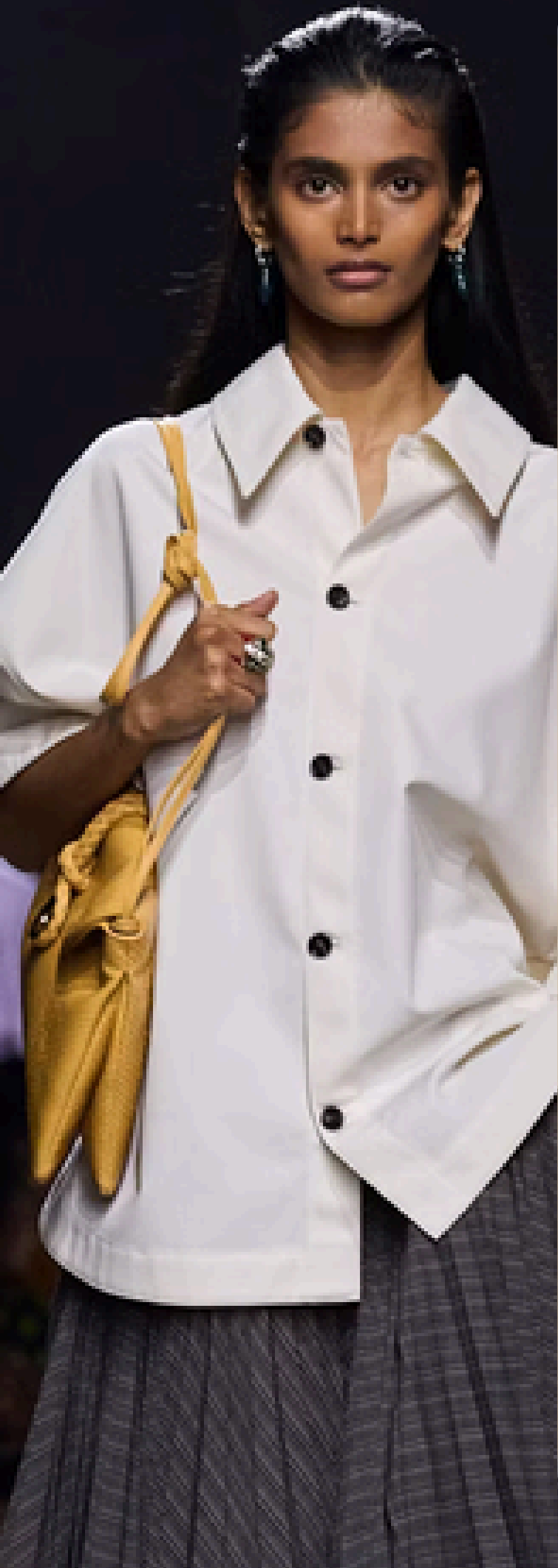
**buzz**



# CRAFT OVER HYPE: THE DEFINING SHIFT AT LAKMÉ FASHION WEEK X FDCI 2026 IN MUMBAI



Lakmé Fashion Week 2026 stood out as a season where craft, experimentation, and youth-driven energy clearly took centre stage. Handcrafted textiles like khadi and handloom dominated the runway, signalling a strong shift towards slow, meaningful fashion, while menswear broke away from convention with fluid silhouettes and softer, more expressive tailoring. A noticeable Gen Z influence brought playful layering, gender-neutral fits, and a fresh rebellious tone, with designers focusing more on texture, surface detailing, and construction rather than loud prints. Among the clear winners, Rahul Mishra impressed with his seamless blend of sustainability and couture-level craftsmanship, while Anamika Khanna delivered powerful, layered fusion wear that balanced drama with wearability. Péro emerged as a quiet yet impactful favourite, rooted in storytelling and textile richness. On the other hand, brands that relied on repetitive, overly commercial designs or treated sustainability as a surface-level trend struggled to leave a mark, with weak styling and lack of innovation making some collections feel forgettable. Overall, the season made it clear that at Lakmé Fashion Week, authenticity, craftsmanship, and bold creative direction are defining the future of Indian fashion.



## From Runways to Revolution: India Takes the Chanel Throne

March 2026 marked a significant moment for Indian fashion as Bhavitha Mandava was announced as the first Indian house ambassador for Chanel. This milestone reflects a broader shift in the global fashion industry towards inclusivity and diverse representation.

Her association with Chanel not only highlights her individual achievement but also brings Indian talent into sharper focus on the international luxury platform. It signals growing recognition of India's influence in fashion, culture, and aesthetics.

This move opens doors for more Indian models, designers, and creatives to collaborate with global luxury brands, reinforcing the idea that fashion today is increasingly borderless and culturally interconnected.

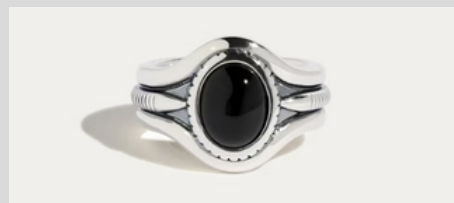
## Jacques Marie Mage Launches the Last Frontier VII Collection

Ultimate cool-girl brand Jacques Marie Mage has introduced a new collection of limited-edition eyewear, “Last Frontier VII.” Six new styles expand the line’s already coveted aesthetic, handcrafted in Japan and inspired by the American West. For the launch, the brand is partnering directly with Indigenous artisans and supporting nonprofit organizations that promote Indigenous culture and community. So you can look great and feel just as good about your purchase.



## Taylor Hill Channels Western Style in Stone Fruit’s New Collection

Taylor Hill and her sister Mackinley have launched the Bolo Collection for their jewelry brand, Stone Fruit, a personal line inspired by their Colorado roots that blends rugged Western aesthetics with modern, versatile luxury. Featuring 14-karat gold vermeil and sterling silver, the collection includes bolo necklaces, signet rings, and bangles adorned with semi-precious stones, priced between \$100 and \$700.

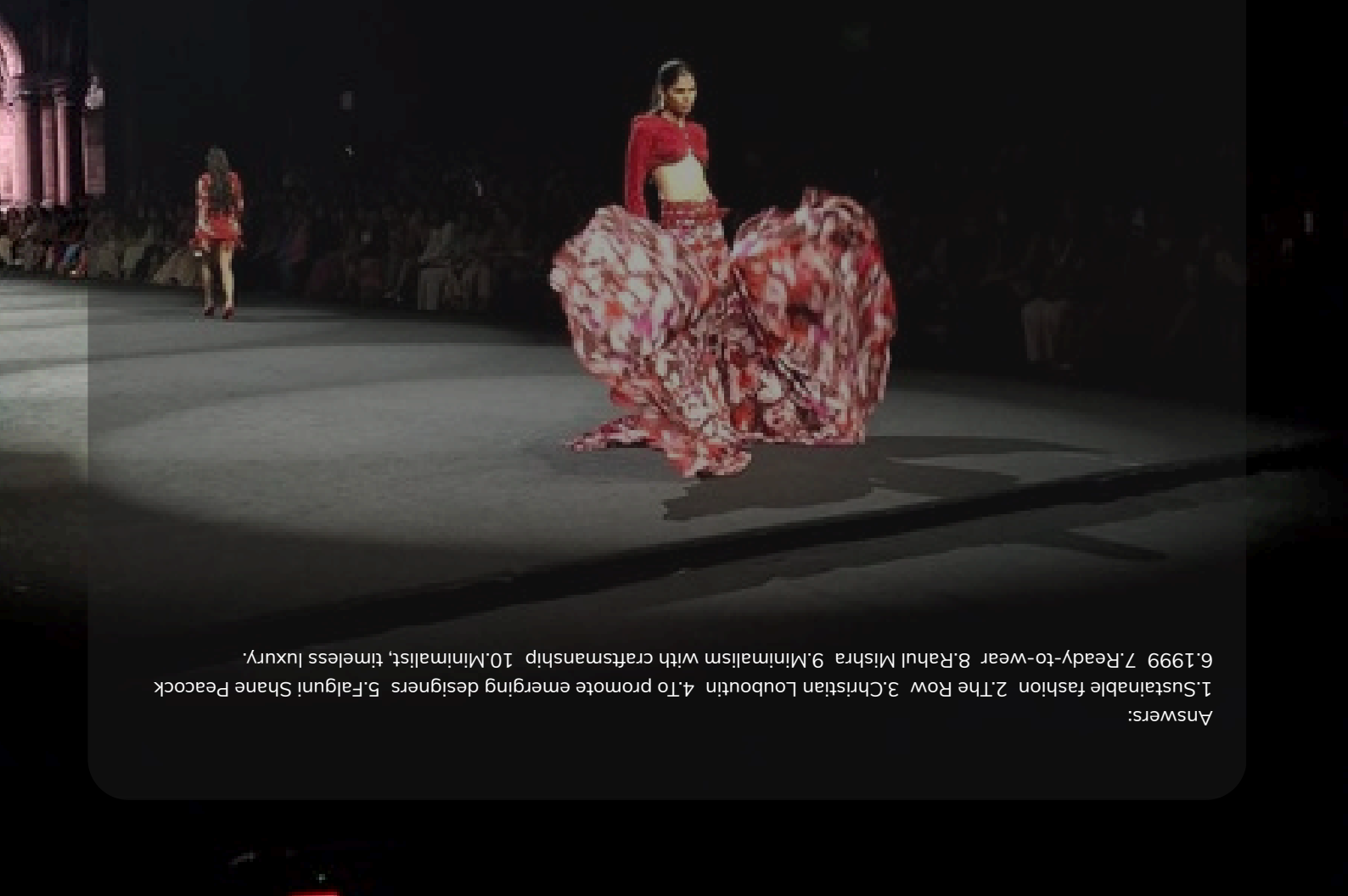


# FASHION QUIZ!!

1. Which trend has strongly continued into 2026?
2. "Quiet Luxury" is best associated with which brands?
3. Which brand is famous for its red sole heels?
4. What is the purpose of the "GenNext" platform?
5. Which designer label was highlighted in 2026 in LFS?
6. Lakmé Fashion Week was originally launched in which year?
7. What does "pretty -à- porter" mean?
8. Which Indian designer is known for global couture representation?
9. Which design philosophy best defined March 2026 collection?
10. The brand "Row" is known for \_\_\_\_\_.

Prepared By - Sanghamitra Mallik( Fashion Design Department, 2024 Batch)

Answers:  
1.Sustainable fashion 2.The Row 3.Christian Louboutin 4.To promote emerging designers 5.Falguni Shane Peacock 6.1999 7.Ready-to-wear 8.Rahul Mishra 9.Minimalism with craftsmanship 10.Minimalist, timeless luxury.



# STUDENT'S CREATION

”



**Wall Clock made with paper & portraits done in Kirigami paper cutting technique**

**By: Priyam Mondal**

( leather, lifestyle and product Design Department, 2025 batch)



**Handmade Bangles**

**By: Anindita Ghorai &**

**Sanghamitra Mallik**

( Leather Lifestyle & Product Design Department & Fashion Design Department 2024 batch)



**Pendulum Clock**

**By: Nitin Singh**

( Leather Lifestyle & Product Design Department, 2025 batch)



**Handmade Bangles**

**By: Anindita Ghorai &**

**Sanghamitra Mallik**

( Leather Lifestyle & Product Design Department & Fashion Design Department 2024 batch)





फुटवियर डिज़ाइन एंड डेवलपमेंट इंस्टिट्यूट

FOOTWEAR DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार | Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

(एफ.डी.डी.आई. अधिनियम २०१७ के अन्तर्गत 'राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान')

AN INSTITUTION OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE under FDDI Act 2017

# FEEDBACK & SUGGESTIONS

**We value your thoughts!**

**Readers are welcome to share their feedback, suggestions, or ideas with the editorial team. Please reach out to us at:**

**[fddi.waves.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:fddi.waves.magazine@gmail.com)**

**Your input helps us grow and improve with every issue.**

**Instagram:**

[https://www.instagram.com/fddikolkataofficial?  
igsh=MW0zbG4wbXo3NTdtbw==](https://www.instagram.com/fddikolkataofficial?igsh=MW0zbG4wbXo3NTdtbw==)

**Facebook:**

[https://www.facebook.com/share/19d  
8uXv3DN/](https://www.facebook.com/share/19d8uXv3DN/)

**Youtube:**

[http://www.youtube.com/@fddikolkata  
official3233](http://www.youtube.com/@fddikolkataofficial3233)



**Magazine Editor  
MR. Ankur Kar,  
Leather Lifestyle And Product Design  
Department, Batch 2024**