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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Managing Director – FDDI meets Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister, Government of India

Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI along with Mr. R.K. Jalan, Member of FDDI - Governing Council (GC), met Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister, Government of India on 05th May 2025.



From Left: Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI presenting memento to Mr. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry in the presence of Mr. R.K. Jalan, Member FDDI - GC



A view of the meeting

They discussed future prospects for the footwear industry and ways to enhance quality, efficiency, and investments in the sector. The Hon'ble Minister emphasized the need for FDDI to gear up for the exponential growth of India's dynamic footwear sector.

182nd meeting of Committee of Administration of Council for Leather Exports held

The 182nd meeting of Committee of Administration (CoA) of Council for Leather Exports (CLE) was held on 29th April 2025 at the office of CLE, KLC Complex, Unnao – Kanpur.



Participants of the meeting



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Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director – FDDI attended the meeting as special invitee. MD-FDDI urged the CoA members to give their inputs pertaining to the inclusion of new innovative areas to be included/accommodated in the course curriculum of the various programmes offered by FDDI for help in development of the desired skill-set and for supporting the industry-academia collaborations which is a key enabler to promote innovation ecosystem. He called upon the industry to intensify engagement with FDDI.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Rajendra Kumar Jalan, Chairman, CLE, Mr. R. Selvam, IAS, Executive Director, CLE, Mr. M. Abdul Wahab, Regional Chairman (SR), Mr. Asad Kamal Iraqi, Regional Chairman (CR), and the CoA members namely, Mr. M. Rafeeqe Ahmed, Mr. Sanjay Leekha, Mr. Mukhtarul Amin, Mr. Javed Iqbal, Mr. Md. Iftekhar, Mr. Ashraf Rizwan, Mr. Rehan Ajmal and Mr. Vipin Kumar Seth.

Panel Convenors namely, Mr. Rakesh Suri, Convenor – Leather Footwear, Mr. Manoj Kumar Bhaiya, Convenor – Components & Allied Products, Mr. Yadvendra Singh, Convenor – Leather Goods, Mr. Rajiv Suri, Convenor – Saddlery & Harness also attended the meeting.

The meeting was convened to deliberate on key trade and policy matters impacting the leather and footwear industry with particular focus on measures that could support the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of the sector, Union Budget 2025-26 and various other administrative issues.

Exploring diverse retail formats FDDI, Chennai students visit Phoenix Marketcity & Palladium Mall

On 01st May 2025, the 3rd year students of the School of Fashion Design (FD), accompanied by faculty members, recently embarked on an insightful academic visit to Phoenix Marketcity and Palladium Mall, Chennai.



Students along with faculty members at Phoenix Marketcity, Chennai

The visit bridged classroom learning with industry practices, offering students firsthand exposure to visual merchandising and fashion retail trends. They explored diverse retail formats and gained insights into market forecasting by observing current collections and identifying key trends in color, fabric, silhouette, and styling.

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FDDI, Ankleshwar showcases Industry-Oriented Programs at TV9 Education Expo, Surat

FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus participated in the prestigious TV9 Education Expo in Surat, showcasing the institute's strengths and engaging with students, parents, and academic stakeholders to highlight its role in shaping industry-ready professionals.

During the expo which was held on 26th & 27th April 2025, Mr. Lalit Prakash, Executive Director (ED) of FDDI Ankleshwar, interacted with media representatives and briefed about the institute's unwavering commitment to skill-based education

and industry-integrated learning. He elaborated on FDDI's specialized academic programs which are meticulously crafted to meet the dynamic needs of both domestic and international markets.

Information about the academic programmes of the FDDI was provided to the parents as well to the aspiring students.



Mr. Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Home Minister of Gujarat being briefed at FDDI stall

Industrial visit for FDDI, Chennai students at Veequesy Sandals (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mysuru

As part of their industrial exposure and practical learning, the 3rd year students of the B.Des Footwear Design & Production (FDP) program of FDDI, Chennai Campus visited Veequesy Sandals (India) Pvt. Ltd., located in the Nanjangud Industrial Estate, Mysuru.



Students at Veequesy Sandals (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mysuru

The visit which was held under the guidance of the faculty of FDDI from 27th to 29th April 2025, gave students a comprehensive overview of PU, PVC, and EVA moulded non-leather footwear manufacturing, covering the full process from raw material preparation to moulding, finishing, quality checks, and packaging.

Workshop on 'Thread Knowledge and Its Relevance in the Apparel Industry' held at FDDI, Kolkata Campus

Aimed at equipping students with essential knowledge about sewing threads and their significant role in the apparel and textile industry, a comprehensive and insightful workshop on 'Thread Knowledge and Its Relevance in the Apparel Industry' was held at FDDI, Kolkata Campus on 25th April 2025.

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- 'Annual Alumni Meet – Reconnect 2025' held at FDDI, Chhindwara Campus;
- FDDI participates in 'Shoetech-2025' Exhibition, Agra;
- FDDI, Hyderabad students visit to CIPET, Hyderabad;
- FDDI, Chennai students explore Indian weaving at the Weavers' Service Centre;
- FDDI, Guna students visit Gupta H.C. Overseas (I) Pvt. Ltd., Agra & Dawar Footwear Industries, Agra;
- Photography Lighting Workshop held at FDDI, Chennai Campus;
- FDDI, Rohtak participates in 'Anvaya Festival: Celebrating Stories' at NID, Kurukshetra;
- Operational exposure for FDDI, Hyderabad students at METRO India Pvt. Ltd.;
- FDDI E-Cell Kicks Off with a Power-Packed Ideation Workshop at Noida Campus;
- Official Language Hindi Workshop held at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus;
- Operational exposure in Retail for FDDI, Noida students;
- Training programme on 'Footwear Manufacturing' for AKVIC artisans at FDDI, Kolkata Campus;
- FDDI, Noida students shine at IFTDTC-CWYEE;
- FDDI, Rohtak conducts 'Skill Development' training program for KVIC;
- Research Article of FDDI, Faculty published in IIFT Journal;
- CREATIVE CORNER: FDDI, Rohtak students;

Students had the unique opportunity to observe and interact with on-site professionals, gaining valuable insights into material handling, injection moulding operations, and automation in footwear manufacturing. Mr. Asheeq, Factory Manager, guided the students through each department and elaborated on the critical stages of production, highlighting key industry practices and quality standards.

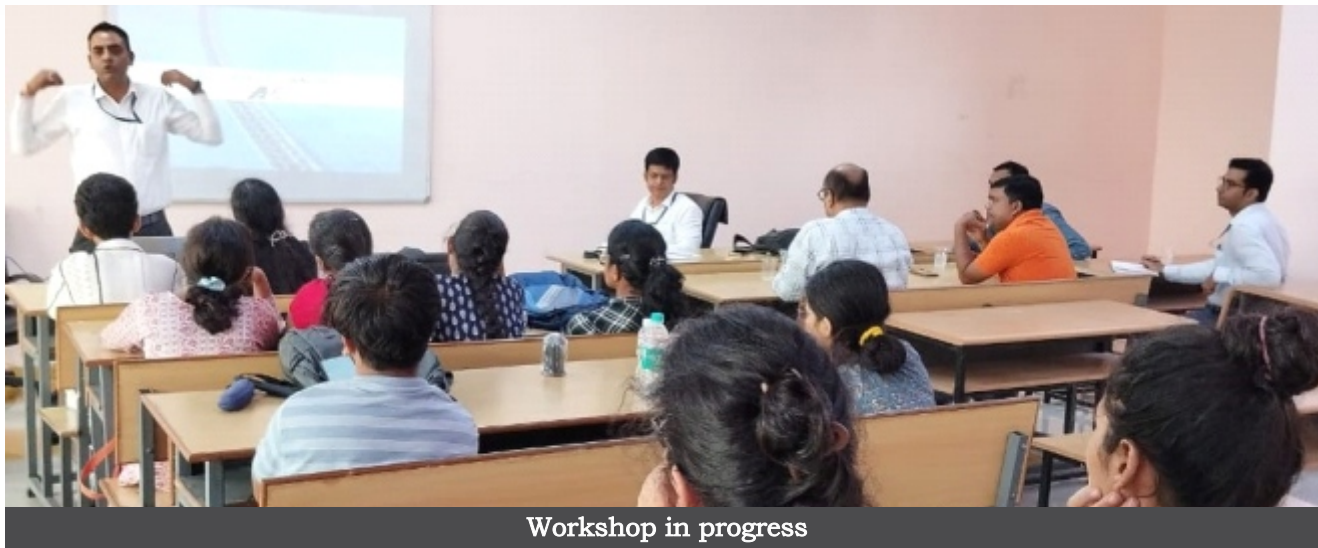


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FDDI School of Fashion Design (FD) organized this workshop during which Mr. Sumesh Minhas, Manager - Brands / GRS India, Vardhman Threads shared his experience & expertise with the students and staffs of the campus.

He covered a broad spectrum of technical and practical topics which included, importance of thread knowledge in professional life, thread's role in garments, choosing the right thread, needle, and fabric combination etc.

The workshop provided students with a strong foundation in thread knowledge, encouraging them to approach garment construction with greater technical awareness.



Workshop in progress

Workshop on '3D- Printing: From Concept to Realistic Prototyping' held at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus

An insightful workshop on '3D Printing: From Concept to Realistic Prototyping' was held at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus from 21st to 25th April 2025 during which the students of other campuses of FDDI were connected virtually.



A view of the workshop

Organized by School of Footwear Design & production (FDP), the workshop featured training on surface and wireframe modeling using Rhino 3D and CLO 3D software, a live demonstration of 3D printing techniques by Mr. Tarun Nakrani (Founder, 3D Fintech), and hands-on sessions on architectural modeling and structural prototyping led by Ms. Venus Rakholia (Architectural Designer).

The workshop not only equipped B.Des. Foundation and FDP students with valuable technical skills but also motivated them to pursue self-reliance in the fields of design and innovation.

On the final day of the workshop, students showcased their ideas through 3D-printed prototypes, shared their learning experiences, and were awarded e-certificates by 3D Fintech.

Health checkup camp & lecture on 'Mental Health Awareness and Related Issues' organized at FDDI, Rohtak

FDDI, Rohtak Campus organized a health check-up camp on 21st April 2025, where Kainos Hospital, Rohtak, conducted screenings for weight, blood sugar, blood pressure, haemoglobin, and eye health, providing medical advisories based on the results to the students and staff members, and FDDI residents.

Following the health check-up camp, Dr. Dharmender, MBBS, MD in General Medicine and Neuro-Psychiatrist from Kinos Hospital delivered a lecture on 'Mental Health Awareness and Related Issues' to students and staff members, promoting better understanding and support. Through the lecture, participants gained insights into the concept of holistic health and mental well-being, learning how to assess mental health, identify characteristics of mental disorders, and understand strategies to improve mental health and overall wellness.



A view of the health camp



Participants attending lecture on 'Mental Health Awareness and Related Issues'



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Market survey and brand study exposure for FDDI, Kolkata students South City Mall

As part of a market survey and brand study exposure to analyze various brands, their product presentation, and visual merchandising strategies, the students of School of Fashion Design (SFD), FDDI Kolkata Campus visited South City Mall on 21st April 2025.

The visit provided students with practical exposure to real-world retail environments and brand operations. It was an engaging and insightful experience, combining both fun and learning, and helped enhance the students' understanding of industry practices.



Students at South City Mall

FDDI, Hyderabad launches 'Design Sync 2025'; signs MoU with NID, Andhra Pradesh

Academic and cultural fest - 'Design Sync 2025' of FDDI, Hyderabad Campus was held from 21st to 25th April 2025. The event was an amalgamation of traditional craftsmanship with contemporary design innovation, featuring seminars on AI in design, artisan demonstrations, entrepreneurial activities like Business Blitz, and events such as the Design Hackathon and E-Bazaar.



Participants of academic and cultural fest - 'Design Sync 2025'



A view of signing of the MoU

A key highlight of the occasion was signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FDDI Hyderabad and National Institute of Design, Andhra Pradesh (NID-AP). This strategic partnership aims to boost academic collaboration and industry-aligned education.

On behalf of FDDI, Dr. Narasimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director (ED), FDDI-Hyderabad signed the MoU, whereas, on behalf of NID-AP, Dr. Bhaumik Nagar Director, signed the MoU. Senior faculty members, students and officials from both premier design institutions were present to witness the formal exchange of the agreement.

The MoU which is valid for three years, with progress reviews every six months includes faculty and student exchange programs, joint research in emerging design fields, shared use of labs and infrastructure, and industry-focused projects enhancing innovation and employability.

The collaboration spans multiple design disciplines including Industrial and Communication Design, Textile and Apparel Design, Footwear Design and Production, Fashion Merchandising and Retail, and Leather Goods and Accessories Design.

The link to access MoU media coverage is: <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/southern-states/telangana/hyderabad-based-fddi-enters-strategic-partnership-with-nidap-to-foster-academic-excellence-1874216>

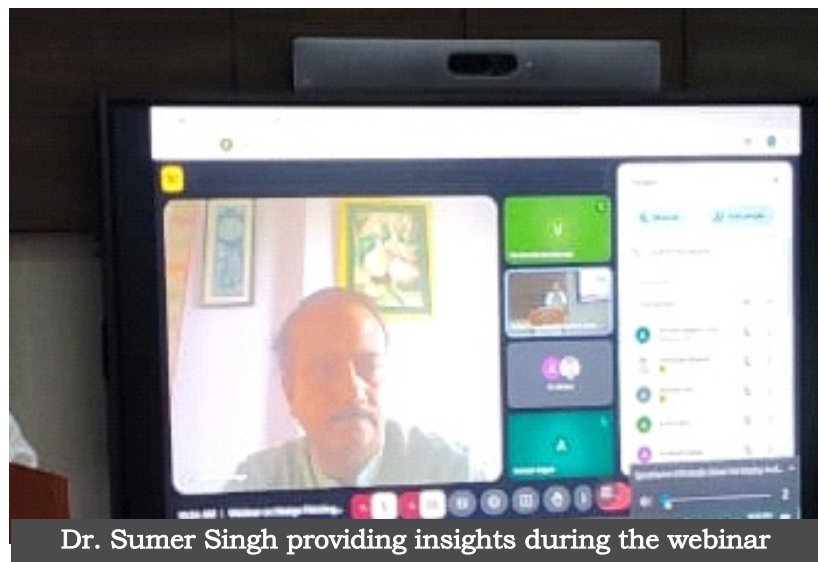
Webinar on 'Design Thinking & Entrepreneurship' organized by FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus

A national-level webinar on the topic 'Design Thinking & Entrepreneurship' was organized by FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus on 16th April 2025. The inspiring session was conducted by eminent academician and design expert Dr. Sumer Singh, Professor at the Department of Design, IIT Delhi.



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The webinar was attended by Foundation batch students from all 12 FDDI campuses across India, making it a truly collaborative and enriching experience.



Dr. Sumer Singh providing insights during the webinar



A view of the participants

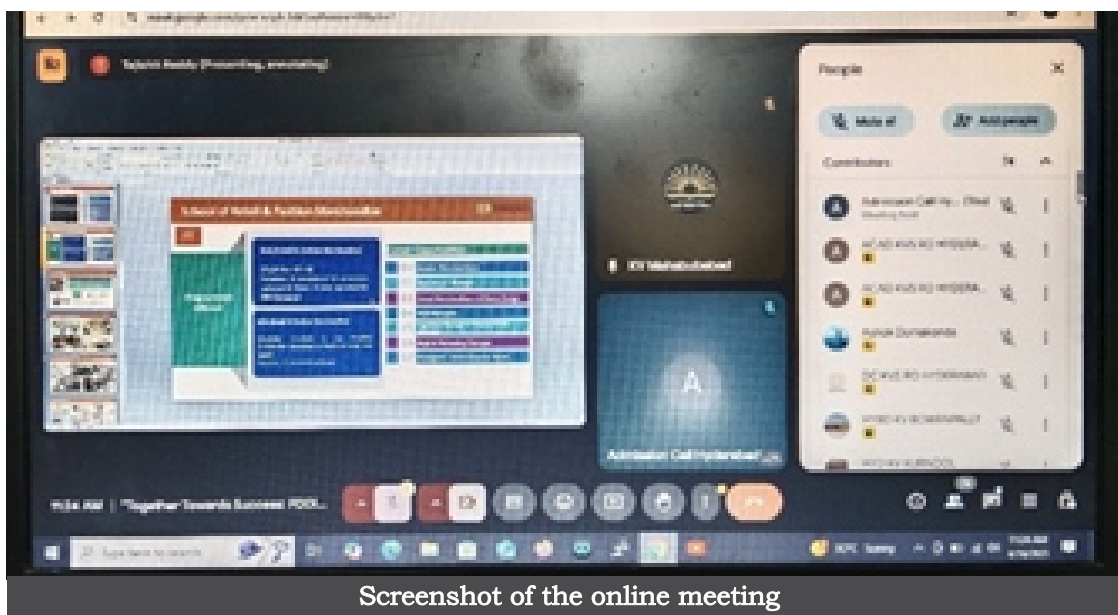
Dr. Singh captivated the audience with real-life insights, innovative thinking frameworks, and motivational startup cases, followed by an interactive one-on-one session where students enthusiastically engaged with their queries.

Online meeting with KVS Principals-organized by FDDI, Hyderabad Campus

To provide understanding about the industry-relevant skills based job-oriented undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of FDDI, an online meeting with the Principals of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) was organized by FDDI, Hyderabad on April 16, 2025.

The meeting was attended by Principals of KVS from Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Telangana (TG) under the directives from Dr. D. Manju Nath, Deputy Commissioner KVS-AP & TG and Mr. T. Prabhudas –Assistant Commissioner.

Dr. Narsimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director, FDDI-Hyderabad Campus briefed the Principals about FDDI and its job oriented courses so that design enthusiast students of KVS can get benefited.



Screenshot of the online meeting

Industrial visit for FDDI students at Rajlakshmi Cotton Mills and Jaya Shree Textiles

As part of its academic curriculum and to foster practical industry exposure, FDDI, Patna organized industrial visit to Rajlakshmi Cotton Mills, located in Gurap, West Bengal on 16th April 2025 and at Jaya Shree Textiles located in Rishra, West Bengal on 15th April 2025.



Students and industry representatives at Rajlakshmi Cotton Mills

The visit included a delegation of students from various departments of FDDI, accompanied by faculty members who guided and facilitated the educational aspects of the tour. The participants included students from Foundation Course Batch and School of Fashion Design (FD) and School of Retail and Fashion Merchandise (RFM), Patna Campus.

Rajlakshmi Cotton Mills Pvt. Ltd. is a pioneering name in India's organic and sustainable textile sector. Established in 1934, the company has evolved into one of the country's leading manufacturers and exporters of organic cotton and fair trade-certified garments. Their ranges include apparel for men, women, and children, as well as accessories and an extensive selection of home textiles. It has built a reputation for producing high-quality knitwear and woven apparel using sustainable processes and ethical labour practices.



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The visit aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world industry practices, allowing students to observe and understand the operations of a sustainable and ethically driven textile manufacturing unit.

During the visit, students observed the full textile manufacturing process—from organic cotton processing to final garment production. They gained insights into sustainable practices like eco-friendly dyeing, modern knitting and finishing, and ethical compliance with standards such as GOTS and Fair Trade. The visit also highlighted garment stitching, advanced printing technologies, quality control and Finishing along with strong workplace ethics, safety, and inclusivity at Rajlakshmi Cotton Mills.

Another industrial visit was organized at Jaya Shree Textiles, a unit of Grasim Industries Ltd., Aditya Birla Group for 23 students comprising of Foundation Batch 2024 and FD Batches 2022 and 2023, along with RFM, MBA program, Patna Campus.

Jaya Shree Textiles was established in 1949. They are the leading global player in the linen and wool textile business. The company focus on continued design development and product innovation to create an unmatched linen collection, making them a supplier of choice to leading domestic & international brand & retailers.



HR team of Jaya Shree Textiles briefing about the safety norms of industrial machines

During the visit, students explored the complete linen production process, gaining first-hand experience to modern machinery, automation, and quality control systems. They learned about yarn spinning, weaving, finishing, production optimization, and sustainable practices, while also observing the importance of industrial safety, hygiene, and environmental compliance in textile manufacturing.

The exposure to these globally recognized sustainable textile facility allowed students to contextualize classroom learnings and inspired them to explore innovative and responsible pathways in the fashion and retail sectors.

Symposium on 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Thoughts' held at FDDI, Jodhpur Campus

In a spirit of respect and reflection to celebrate the birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar — a visionary who championed equality, justice, and social reform, a symposium on 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Thoughts' was held at FDDI, Jodhpur Campus on 14th April 2025.

The Chief Guest of the event, Mr. M. R. Baloch (Retd. IFS) in his keynote address emphasized that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar relentlessly advocated for a government 'of the people, by the people and for the people'. He reminded everyone of Dr. Ambedkar's relentless struggle for the rights of the underprivileged and his role in shaping modern India through the Constitution.



Symposium in progress



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Team members from different departments participate in the event, sharing thoughts, stories, and memories about how Dr. Ambedkar's ideals continue to guide our actions, both personally and professionally.

'Alumni Interaction Programme' held at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus

Designed to enhance networking among alumni, celebrating their achievements, and strengthening the bonds between alumni and their alma mater, FDDI, Fursatganj Campus, hosted a vibrant and heartwarming 'Alumni Interaction Programme' on 13th April, 2025.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic turnout, with alumni from various batches and professional backgrounds coming together to relive their memories and network, facilitating knowledge sharing with fellow graduates. The meet commenced with a warm welcome address by the Executive Director - Mr. Sunil Kumar Dwivedi, followed by a short video presentation highlighting the milestones and growth of FDDI, Fursatganj over the years.



A view of participants at 'Alumni Interaction Programme'

Industrial visit for FDDI, Guna students at Hitcolus Footwear Pvt. Ltd., Bahadurgarh



Students watching the manufacturing process at Hitcolus Footwear Pvt. Ltd.

With the objective of acquiring practical exposure and for better understanding of industry operations, the students of FDDI Guna campus visited Hitcolus Footwear Pvt. Ltd., located at Bahadurgarh, Haryana on 12th April 2025.

The company caters to need of every family member ranging from school shoes to sports shoes for gents, ladies and kids in unmatched style and comfort.

During the visit, under the guidance of their faculty members, the students gained first-hand exposure to real-world manufacturing processes and interacted with professionals working in the footwear industry.

Educational visit for FDDI, Hyderabad students at GILT, Hyderabad

On 11th April 2025 & 16th April, 2025, the students of B.Des-Foundation Batch of FDDI, Hyderabad campus were taken to Government Institute of Leather Technology (GILT), Hyderabad, Telangana where they were provided exposure of its Tannery Department.

The process of leather finishing was explained by Mr. Shaiek Iqbal Hussain, Principal, GILT in detail, highlighting the use of various chemicals, machinery, and techniques to produce different types of leather for the global market. A detailed demonstration of multiple finishing methods was also provided.



Students watching the process taking place in the tannery

Educational visit for FDDI, Chennai students on National Biomechanics Day

On the occasion of National Biomechanics Day (NBD) on 09th April 2025, the students from B.Des 3rd year and M.Des 2nd year of the School of Footwear Design and Production (FDP) of FDDI, Chennai Campus visited the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Biomechanics at Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University (TNPESU), Chennai.



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The visit gave students a valuable glimpse into a cutting-edge biomechanics lab, offering insights into the latest sports technology. It highlighted the vital role of biomechanics in modern footwear design, emphasizing performance, comfort, and injury prevention.



Students alongwith faculty members at CoE, TNPESU



Students watching the cutting-edge biomechanics lab

Dr. Rajinikumar, Assistant Professor at TNPESU, delivered an engaging lecture on biomechanics fundamentals, complemented by live demonstrations of tools like motion capture, force plates, and gait analysis. The session effectively connected theory with practical applications in sports and rehabilitation.

'Portfolio Design Workshop' held at FDDI, Hyderabad

On 07th April 2025, 'Portfolio Design Workshop' was held by FDDI, Hyderabad by the School of Fashion Design (FD) that aimed to equip attendees with the necessary knowledge and techniques to develop a strong and effective portfolio that opens doors to various opportunities in the fashion world.

The workshop coordinated by Dr. Anupriya Singh, Junior Faculty, FDDI Hyderabad was led by Mr. Avinash Kumar, a Design Professor from NIFT-Hyderabad, who shared his expertise to guide participants in creating compelling fashion portfolios.

Participants learned the essentials of a fashion portfolio, including showcasing design concepts, technical flats, garment construction, lookbook presentation, material and colour selection, and creating a cohesive, professional layout.



A view of the workshop

Exposure visit for CBSE School Principals at FDDI, Fursatganj, FDDI, Ankleshwar and FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus

Exposure visit for CBSE School Principals was held at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus and at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus on 2nd April 2025 where at FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus on 4th April 2025 in collaboration with the Department of Skill Education, CBSE Headquarters, New Delhi.

In the NEP – 2020, it has been emphasized that Vocational /Skill education will be an integral part of school and higher education. The Board currently, also offers 33 Skill Modules of 12 hours at Middle school level, 22 Skill Subjects at Secondary level and 43 Skill Subjects at Senior Secondary level to upgrade the skills and proficiency of the young generation and explore the various career options available.

In this regard, the visit was organized at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus in which Principals from various schools & colleges located in districts like Raebareli, Amethi Pratapgarh, Bahraich etc. and affiliated to CBSE board participated in the event. They were brief about the career opportunities available in the field of footwear, fashion, leather products, and retail & fashion merchandise through the skill based professional programmes of FDDI by the Executive Director –FDDI, Fursatganj Campus, Mr. Sunil Kumar Dwivedi.



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Mr. Varun Gupta, Senior Faculty- FDP Grade 1, gave a brief presentation about Footwear Technology. Ms. Neelam Patel, Faculty- FD presented the scope and career in Fashion Design.

CBSE Principals meet was held at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus in which 15 Principals from Gujarat & Maharashtra (Surat, Vadodara, Anand, Bharuch & Pune) schools affiliated to CBSE board visited the institute alongwith Mr. Dhiren Shah, FDDI alumni & Managing Director, Favourite Shoes.

Dr. Biswajit Saha, Director, Skill Education (CBSE); Mr. Satish Kumar Pahal, Deputy Secretary (CBSE); Mr. Rajeev Pandey, Under Secretary, Skill Education (CBSE) also attended the meeting through online mode.



CBSE School Principals at FDDI, Fursatganj Campus

Mr. Lalit Prakash, Executive Director, FDDI Ankleshwar briefed about the institute's pivotal role in skill development and the need of fostering industry-academia collaboration. The discussions centered on career opportunities, digital integration, and potential partnerships aimed at strengthening skill-based education for students.



CBSE School Principals at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus

Similarly, in a significant step towards aligning school education with the NEP – 2020, twenty-five Principals from renowned schools across Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, and Haryana visited FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus to foster collaboration and explore career opportunities in the footwear, fashion, and retail sectors.

The event was graced by Ms. Preeti Saxena, Deputy Commissioner, KV Chandigarh Region, as the Chief Guest, and presided over by Ms. Pragya Singh, IRS, Executive Director (ED), FDDI Chandigarh.

ED highlighted FDDI's pivotal role in nurturing skilled professionals for the growing footwear and fashion industry and emphasized the importance of such meets to showcase student talent and educational pedagogy.

A major highlight of the event was an exhibition of student-designed footwear, accessories, and garments, curated under the mentorship of Ms. Shefali Verma. Visiting principals were deeply impressed with the creativity and skill demonstrated.

The technical sessions featured presentations by senior faculty wherein Dr. Avinash Bajpai spoke on “Retail & Fashion Merchandise: Sectoral Growth and Career Opportunities”, Dr. Prashant explored “The Evolution of the Footwear Industry, R&D Scope, and Advanced Manufacturing Technologies”, and Dr. Annu Kumari discussed “The Fashion Industry: Career Prospects and the Design Education Continuum from School to Higher Education.”

The principals visited the respective campus of FDDI where they were made aware of the technicalities & management aspects of various skill based programmes being conducted by the institute.



CBSE School Principals at FDDI, Chandigarh (Banur) Campus

Resettlement Course on Footwear Manufacturing and Retailing for Armed Forces Personnel inaugurated at FDDI

To equip Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) and Other Ranks (ORs) from the Army, Navy, and Air Force with essential skills for a smooth transition into civilian careers/entrepreneurial ventures, Certificate Course in Footwear Manufacturing and Retailing sponsored by the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) has commenced at FDDI, Jodhpur and FDDI, Noida Campus.

The inaugural ceremony of this course was held on 7th April 2025 at FDDI, Jodhpur Campus during which Mr. Vikas Kumar, IPS, IG Jodhpur Range was the Chief Guest, who encouraged the trainees to embrace skill development as a stepping stone for their second



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innings in civilian life. Dr. Rajiv Agrawal, Clinical Director, Foot Care – Jaipur, was the Guest of Honor, and shared valuable insights on the importance of foot health and its connection with the footwear industry.



A view of the inaugural session at FDDI, Jodhpur, Campus



Participants of DGR course along with FDDI, Jodhpur officials

This course was inaugurated on 21st April 2025 at FDDI, Noida Campus during which Mr. A. K. Singh, Director, DGNCC, Ministry of Defence was the Chief Guest.



A view of the inaugural session at FDDI, Noida, Campus



Participants of DGR course along with FDDI, Noida officials

This meticulously designed course will be conducted by the experts of FDDI which shall provide armed forces personnel with the necessary skills and insights to seamlessly transition into the fields of Footwear Manufacturing and Retailing thus, enabling them to explore new career opportunities post-retirement.

Insightful session on 'Design Thinking & Design Methods' at FDDI, Hyderabad Campus

An insightful session on 'Design Thinking & Design Methods' was held at FDDI, Hyderabad Campus on 11th April 2025 by Mr. Moulinath, Design Director at Phenom Pvt. Ltd.

Mr. Moulinath, shared insights on ideation, innovation and its vital role in problem-solving with the students of Foundation batch 2024.



A view of the Session



Students clarifying their queries from the Design expert

The students learned emphasis of prototyping & principles of design thinking with exploration on various design methods that can be applied in real-world contexts not only the manufacturing industry, but many other walks of life.



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'Annual Alumni Meet – Reconnect 2025' held at FDDI, Chhindwara Campus

On 8th April 2025, FDDI Chhindwara Campus proudly hosted its 'Annual Alumni Meet – Reconnect 2025', marking a significant occasion to celebrate academic excellence, placement achievements, and long-standing industry-alumni relationships.



A view of 'Annual Alumni Meet – Reconnect 2025'



Media coverage

The event saw an overwhelming response with the participation of over 40 esteemed alumni, many of whom have reached remarkable professional milestones in renowned national and international companies.

Several success stories were shared, inspiring current students and staff alike. Among them, Jitendra Antartey, an alumna with degrees in both Footwear Design and Retail, is currently working at Quality & Source, Bengaluru, earning an impressive ₹18 LPA. Akash Bahade, now with Tata Joodio, serves as Manager - Quality & Merchandising with a ₹12 LPA package, while Kashif Khan is excelling in the Design Department at Adidas, also drawing ₹12 LPA.

The alumni expressed heartfelt gratitude toward FDDI, Chhindwara for equipping them with industry-relevant skills, practical exposure, and continuous mentorship.

FDDI participates in 'Shoetech-2025' Exhibition, Agra

FDDI participated in 'Shoetech-2025' Exhibition which was organized by Indian Footwear Components Manufacturers Association (IFCOMA) on 2nd & 3rd April 2025 at Hotel Madhu Resorts, Sikandra, Agra.

It was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Mr. Puran Dawar, President - AFMEC, Chairman, Dawar Group, Agra along with Special Guest of Honour, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director - FDDI, Noida and Mr. Gopal Gupta, Vice President- AFMEC & Chairman, M/s Gupta Overseas.



A view of the inauguration session



MD, FDDI being felicitated during 'Shoetech-2025'

Colonel Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary – FDDI, Ms. Manju Maan, Executive Director (ED) - FDDI, Noida Campus, Ms. Sarita Duhan, ED - FDDI, Rohtak Campus, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, President- IFCOMA, Mr. S.K. Verma, Executive Director - IFCOMA, Managing Committee of IFCOMA, other industry dignitaries were also present on this occasion.



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The event, showcasing the latest developments in the footwear industry, brought together industry professionals, manufacturers, and experts to share knowledge, and explore business opportunities. There were about 60 Exhibitors with 75 stalls.

During this occasion, awards were given to exhibitors for their excellent stalls in various categories, including industry-academia collaboration, innovative trends, and trusted brands.

The exhibition emphasized the importance of components in the footwear industry, with 32 critical components being manufactured by IFCOMA members.

Category	Awarded to
Industry Academia Collaboration Initiative	Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Noida
Most Innovative Trends Display	National Institute of Fashion Technology, Rae Bareli
Trusted Brand Stuck On	Stuck Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Agra
Creative Product Category	CDS Soles Pvt Ltd, Chennai
Revolutionary Waste Management and Recycling Award	Green Worms, Calicut, Kerala



The stall of FDDI showcased a wide range of creations including men's and women's footwear—casual, formal, and sports shoes—along with fashion accessories and leather goods such as travelware, belts, handbags, portfolios, and wallets. Information on laboratory services, training programs, and consultancy offerings was shared through brochures and direct interactions with companies.

Students from FDDI, Noida and Guna visited the exhibition which was an enriching experience, fostering an environment of shared learning and collaboration.

FDDI, Hyderabad students visit to CIPET, Hyderabad

On 7th & 8th April, 2025, the students of School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) 2021 & 2022 and Foundation Batch 2024 of FDDI, Hyderabad campus visited Central Institute of Petrochemical Engineering & Technology (CIPET), Hyderabad, Telangana.

Under the supervision and guidance of the faculty of FDDI, the visit was organized with the objective to provide exposure about the plastic engineering & technology used in advance mould making & to make them conversant with the full process of turning of petrochemical material to a usable product.

During their visit, Mr. D. Anjaneya Sharma, Manager - Technical, CIPET explained the process of different type of conventional & CAD machines with application of engineering & technology for making tools, dies and moulds making for plastic products.



The visit enhanced their understanding of practical applications and recent trends in the plastics industry.



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FDDI, Chennai students explore Indian weaving at the Weavers' Service Centre

On 03rd April 2025, the students of the School of Fashion Design (FD) from FDDI, Chennai Campus embarked on an insightful educational visit to the Weavers' Service Centre (WSC), Chennai.

During the visit, the students who were accompanied by faculty members were introduced to a variety of traditional fabric design techniques, including block printing, tie and dye, and batik dyeing.



Ms. Sasikala, Asst. Director, Design department explaining students about design techniques



Students along with their faculty in WSC

Experts at the centre demonstrated these methods, explaining the intricate processes, tools and materials involved in textile dyeing and printing processes. The live demonstrations not only captivated the students, but, also deepened their appreciation for the craftsmanship and artistic expression behind handmade textiles.

A key highlight of the visit was the opportunity to explore woven craft samples and archival references that celebrate India's rich textile legacy. From authentic handloom fabrics to region-specific dyeing patterns, the experience broadened the students' design horizons and sparked creative inspiration for future projects.

FDDI, Guna students visit Gupta H.C. Overseas (I) Pvt. Ltd., Agra & Dawar Footwear Industries, Agra

On 3rd April 2025, the students of FDDI, Guna Campus, under the industrial visit went to Gupta H.C. Overseas (I) Pvt. Ltd., Agra & Dawar Footwear Industries, Agra.

Under the guidance of Ms. Rupali Goyal, Faculty at FDDI Guna, and Mr. Jitendra Gupta, Centre In-charge (CI), the visit of the students of FDDI was organized to provide a better understanding of industrial processes in footwear manufacturing.



Students at Gupta H.C. Overseas (I) Pvt. Ltd., Agra



Students at Dawar Footwear Industries, Agra

Students were guided by factory experts through the complete production cycle—from raw materials to the finished product—while learning the importance of each operation. The visit offered invaluable insights into the scale of operations, advanced machinery, and the rigorous quality control and design processes that go into crafting each pair of shoes.



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Photography Lighting Workshop held at FDDI, Chennai Campus

On 1st and 2nd April 2025, a highly engaging photography lighting workshop titled 'Glow & Shadow: Mastering Photography Lighting' was conducted for the B. Design students of Foundation Batch of FDDI, Chennai Campus.

Under the expert guidance of Mr. Naveen Kumar, a renowned photographer and visual artist, students delved into the technical and creative aspects of photography lighting.

The students were introduced to the principles of lighting design, shadow play, contrast control, and camera techniques essential for creating mood and depth in visual compositions. Live demonstrations and hands-on sessions allowed students to experiment with various lighting setups, understand how different light sources impact imagery, and explore the art of creating emotion through shadows and highlights.

Mr. Naveen Kumar also shared professional insights into studio lighting, natural lighting, and techniques for capturing dynamic motion and stills. His real-world experiences inspired the students to think beyond the frame and use lighting as a powerful design tool.



Mr. Naveen Kumar explaining the intricacies of photography lighting to the students

The workshop enhanced the understanding of students of visual storytelling through light manipulation.

FDDI, Rohtak participates in 'Anvaya Festival: Celebrating Stories' at NID, Kurukshetra

The students of the School of Fashion Design (FD) and School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) from FDDI, Rohtak Campus attended the 'Anvaya Festival: Celebrating Stories' held at the National Institute of Design (NID), Kurukshetra, Haryana on 29th March 2025.

During the festival, FDDI students actively participated in a panel discussion on 'Storytelling in Society, Culture, and Business'.



Panel discussion by experts



FDDI students with Director NID and expert persons

The event also featured screenings, performances and masterclasses conducted by industry experts, including filmmakers, theaters artist, costume designers, animators and media professionals that provided students with valuable insights and learnings.



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Operational exposure for FDDI, Hyderabad students at METRO India Pvt. Ltd.

With the objective to provide operational exposure in retail and fashion industry, the students of School of Retail & Fashion Merchandise (RFM) and B.Des. students from School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) of FDDI, Hyderabad Campus were taken to METRO India Pvt. Ltd. (Wholesale Retailer) on 28th March 2025.

The students were explained about wholesale operations, product selection, pricing, and customer service by the Incharge of different sections. The visit was a great opportunity for them to gain insights into the supply chain and logistics involved in wholesale distribution.

Observing the varying strategies and designs employed by this retail giant helped the students to acquire practical knowledge and understand the nuances of effective mall management & customer engagement.



Students being explained about the operational procedure by the section Incharge

FDDI E-Cell Kicks Off with a Power-Packed Ideation Workshop at Noida Campus

As part of the newly activated Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) at FDDI, Noida Campus, the School of Leather Goods and Accessories Design (LGAD), organized 'Idea Generation and Innovation' workshop on 28th March 2025.



A view of 'Idea Generation and Innovation' workshop

The sessions was led by Rohit Krishna and Ms. Sachi, Founders of AerSense—a pioneering tech startup committed to improving air quality, respiratory health, and AI-integrated solutions.

Through design thinking principles, students learned how to approach problem-solving in a creative and strategic manner. By engaging in structured brainstorming, market analysis, and feasibility studies, students gained firsthand experience in identifying real-world business opportunities.

The workshop saw an overwhelming response with 70 enthusiastic student participants and members of the E-Cell. Students worked in collaborative groups, sparking creative solutions and entrepreneurial ideas resulting in 11 fresh and exciting startup concepts emerged from the brainstorming activities.

These ideas will now enter the next stage of development with ongoing mentoring from AerSense and academic guidance from FDDI faculty, nurturing real-world entrepreneurship within the FDDI ecosystem.



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Official Language Hindi Workshop held at FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus

To comply with the Annual Program of the Official Language Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, a one-day Hindi workshop was jointly organized by FDDI, Ankleshwar Campus and the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Hospital, Ankleshwar on 27th March 2025.

Mr. Amit Indoria, Hindi Officer, ESIC Hospital - Surat, was the 'Keynote Speaker' who provided meaningful and detailed guidance on the legislative provisions of the official language Hindi, its practical applications, and strategies for effective implementation.

On this occasion, Dr. Arkesh A. Shah, Medical Superintendent of ESIC Hospital, Ankleshwar, Mr. Lalit Prakash, Executive Director (ED), FDDI-Ankleshwar and the staff of both the institution were present.



Mr. Amit Indoria delivering the lecture

Participants gained in-depth knowledge on the effective use of Hindi in administrative and official work, compliance with government policies, and the importance of proficient communication in Hindi.

Operational exposure in Retail for FDDI, Noida students

On 26th March 2025, the students of the School of Retail and Fashion Merchandise (RFM) of FDDI Noida visited a leading wholesale retail outlet - LOTS Wholesale.



Students at LOTS Wholesale

Under the guidance of Dr. Aastha Garg, Sr. Faculty -FDDI, students observed the warehouse-style layout and operational flow, which helped them to understand the structured approach required for seamless retail management. They explored how inventory is stocked, monitored, and replenished in real-time to ensure efficient supply chain management. Additionally, the concept of price differentiation was evident, as LOTS Wholesale offers varied pricing structures based on purchase volumes and customer categories. The visit also shed light on customer engagement techniques, including promotional strategies and membership benefits, which play a crucial role in retaining business clients.

Training programme on 'Footwear Manufacturing' for AKVIC artisans at FDDI, Kolkata Campus

Under Gramodyog Vikas Yojana for the year 2024-25, eight artisans from Assam Khadi & Village Industries Commission (AKVIC), belonging to different parts of the State underwent a 25 days residential training programme on 'Footwear Manufacturing' at FDDI, Kolkata Campus from 03rd to 27th March 2025.

The experts of the School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) of FDDI Kolkata imparted training to the artisans in the area of designing, pattern cutting of different components and lasting of footwear making to facilitate standard size and fitting and for manufacturing of quality and marketable products assuring the participants economic self-reliance.



Artisans at Lasting department



Artisans alongwith their staff members of FDP



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FDDI, Noida students shine at IFTDTO-CWYEE

In a remarkable achievement, BBA students of the School of Retail & Fashion Merchandise (RFM) at the FDDI, Noida Campus clinched First and Second Prizes in the Product Presentation category at the prestigious International Federation of Training and Development Organization (IFTDTO-CWYEE) International Conference held on 24th - & 25th March 2015 at Vishwa Yuve Kendra, New Delhi.

The competition witnessed fierce participation, but FDDI's students stood out with their innovative ideas and excellent presentation skills.



Students explaining their product concept



Students receiving prizes

The First Prize was awarded to the team of Madhuleena, Khushi, and Shreya, who showcased jewelry holders and jewelry plates made from discarded pumps, while the Second Prize was secured by the team of Shreya, Aditya Krishna, and Tulika, who presented a unique plant holder crafted from discarded footwear.

The students impressed judges with their creative product presentations and hands-on upcycling project, highlighting their understanding of the retail and fashion industry and emphasizing sustainability in design.

This project highlights FDDI's commitment to sustainability and innovation by repurposing old footwear into functional products, reducing waste, and showcasing the role of upcycling in modern fashion and retail.

FDDI, Rohtak conducts 'Skill Development' training program for KVIC

FDDI, Rohtak Campus successfully organised a 25 days' 'Skill Development' training programme for the participants of Khadi Village Industries Commission (KVIC) under Gramudyog Vikas Yojna (GVY) at its premise.

This training program aimed to equip participants with comprehensive skills in crafting high-quality leather shoes, covering all aspects of shoe production from design to finishing.

Sr. No.	Topic	Date	No. of Participants
1	Complete Shoe Making on Vertical of Leather	3/2/2025 to 8/3/2025	30
2		3/3/2025 to 28/3/2025	20



A trainee receiving certificate by MD-FDDI



Trainee along with their certificates



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Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director - FDDI felicitated the participants of (2nd batch) with certificates on 28th March 2025, whereas, Ms. Bharti Dabas, IPS - HPS Superintendent Police of Commandant felicitated the participants of (1st batch) with certificates on 08th March 2025 in the presence of Ms. Sarita Duhan, Executive Director (ED) - FDDI, Rohtak Campus.

Under this programme, expert trainers of the School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) guided the participants through hands-on practice in each module i.e. Footwear masking and pattern development, Shoe component and material cutting, Shoe stitching and upper stitching and Shoe lasting & final touches etc.

As part of the training program, participants visited prominent footwear clusters namely, Bahadurgarh - Haryana, Agra, and Madipur - Delhi shoe market, gaining valuable industry insights.



'Skill Development' training in progress

Research Article of FDDI, Faculty published in IIFT Journal

A research article of Mr. Anoop Singh Rana, Senior Faculty at the School of Leather Goods and Accessories Design (LGAD), FDDI has been published in Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), International Business and Management Review Journal - a biannual, peer-reviewed publication.



Mr. Anoop Singh Rana, Senior Faculty, LGAD, FDDI



Cover page of the article

Published in English and peer-reviewed by Sage Publications, the journal showcases high-quality research work from across the academic community.

Mr. Rana's article, titled "Integrating Sustainable Design Principles into Business Strategies: A Framework for Enhancing Corporate Social Responsibility in the Indian Leather Product Industry," has been selected for OnlineFirst publication. It is accessible at <https://doi.org/10.1177/jiift.241277419>.

The article presents a comprehensive framework for integrating sustainable design principles into business strategies within the Indian leather products industry. It highlights how companies can align their operations with environmental and social responsibilities, offering insights into reducing waste, promoting stakeholder well-being, and driving a more sustainable future for the sector.

To foster academic collaboration, interdisciplinary research, and innovation under the convergence initiative of five leading institutions—Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), and National Institute of Design (NID), the peer-reviewed research papers selected from the participating institutes were compiled into a special edition of the journal by IIFT.



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CREATIVE CORNER: FDDI, Rohtak students



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