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**FOOTWEAR DESIGN
& DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE**

An Institution of
National Importance



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FDDI Noida Celebrates PM Modi's 75th Birthday with 'Portrait of Pride' Exhibition

On 17th September 2025, FDDI, Noida celebrated the 75th birthday of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, by curating an exclusive exhibition titled "Portrait of Pride."



From Left: Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD – FDDI, Mr. Manish Tripathi, Fashion Designer, Col. Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary - FDDI, Ms. Manju Maan, ED, Noida at the exhibition showcasing extensive collection of portraits

Creative students from FDDI infused their artistic inputs, creating a diverse collection of portraits using a vast range of methods and materials. They used paper, fabrics, threads, yarns, digital design, various printing techniques (including screen printing), weaving, leather, 'dhoop ash' colours, micro-portraits, and 3D design, among many other techniques.

The exhibition was formally inaugurated by renowned fashion designer, Mr. Manish Tripathi. The students' enthusiastic participation and the quality of their work were a highlight of the opening.

Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI, highly praised the students' creative contributions and encouraged them in their future endeavors.

Ms. Manju Maan, Executive Director (ED), Noida, commented on the event, stating, "This creative spirit shown by the students reflects the unity and dedication they feel towards our nation."

The life and journey of Shri Narendra Modi Ji continue to serve as a profound inspiration for the younger generation, motivating the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and the aspiration to make India a world leader.

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- FDDI Hyderabad Hosts "Crafting Your Creative Identity" Portfolio Workshop;

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Gratitude to the FDDI Governing Council

As the term of the present Governing Council (GC) of FDDI comes to a close, we express our deepest gratitude to all esteemed members for their unwavering guidance, wisdom, and support in steering the Institute through a defining phase of growth and transformation.

Under the visionary leadership of Shri Ashish Dixit, Chairman, FDDI, the Council has played a pivotal role in strengthening FDDI's academic, institutional, and industry linkages—ensuring that the Institute continues to serve as a catalyst for excellence in design, development, and innovation within India's footwear and allied sectors.



Honouring the esteemed FDDI GC for their leadership and continued encouragement (From Left): Col. Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary - FDDI, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director - FDDI, Mr. C S Rao, Deputy Secretary, Finance Wing - DPIIT, Mr. Motilal Sethi, President - ILGA and Shri Ashish Dixit, Chairman - FDDI

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- FDDI, Hyderabad Faculty Publishes Book on Nuziveedu Veena;
- FDDI Fursatganj Hosts AI Youth Skills Training Program under UP Government's AI Pragma Initiative;
- FDDI Campuses Conduct Rashtriya Karmayogi Training Sessions to Strengthen Professional Excellence;
- FDDI, Rohtak and Noida Faculty Contribute to Book on Innovative Agrotexile Solutions;
- Industry Visit to Ayyappa Enterprises - FDDI, Chennai Students Gain Insights on Woven Leather Craftsmanship;
- FDDI Foundation Students Bridge Past and Present with Dual Educational Visits to National Museum and Lalit Kala Akademi;
- Research on Footwear Quality Management Published in IJSCI by FDDI Chennai & Ankleshwar Faculty;
- Design Patent Granted for 'Portable Dining Table' to Faculty and Student of FDDI, Hyderabad Campus, along with collaborators;
- FDDI Faculty Publishes Technical Review Article in Indian Textile Journal;
- Research Publication by FDDI Chandigarh Faculty in SCIE-Indexed Journal.

The Council's collective efforts have laid the foundation for a forward-looking and resilient FDDI—one that stands ready to lead India's design and manufacturing aspirations under the Vision 2030 framework.

On behalf of the entire FDDI fraternity, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the Chairman and all members of the Governing Council for their invaluable contribution, commitment, and faith in the Institute's mission.

With deep appreciation and respect,
FDDI Family

FDDI Collaborates with FITT, IIT Delhi for Research and Innovation

FDDI has entered into a strategic collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi).

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT Delhi, on 24th September 2025. This partnership marks a significant step forward in advancing research and development, consultancy activities, and knowledge transfer between the two premier institutions.

The MoU encompasses the exchange of academic and research materials, publications, and intellectual properties; cooperation in project proposals and research activities of mutual interest; organization of joint short-term programs and intellectual enrichment opportunities; and the shared use of laboratory and research facilities to strengthen collaborative innovation and skill development.



From Left: Dr. Arnab Chanda, Associate Professor CBME, IIT Delhi, Dr. Nikhil Agarwal, MD, FITT, IIT Delhi, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI and Mr. Sharad Srivastava, Joint Director, CoE, during the MoU exchange ceremony fostering academic and research collaboration



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The MoU was formally signed by Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI, and Dr. Nikhil Agarwal, Managing Director, FITT, IIT Delhi.

Dr. Arnab Chanda, Associate Professor at the Centre for Biomedical Engineering (CBME), IIT Delhi, and joint faculty at AIIMS, New Delhi, will coordinate the collaboration from IIT Delhi, while Mr. Sharad Srivastava, Joint Director, CoE, will lead coordination efforts from FDDI.

This collaboration paves the way for cutting-edge innovations and a stronger design and technology ecosystem, bridging academia, research, and industry to create impactful solutions for the future.

FDDI Signs MoU with Wadhvani Foundation to Enhance Career Readiness

FDDI has entered into a transformative collaboration with the Wadhvani Foundation (WF) to strengthen the career readiness of its students. On 22nd September 2025, an MoU was signed to introduce an AI-powered application that will benefit final-year students across all 12 FDDI campuses for the next three years (2025–2028).



From Left: Col. Santosh Jha, Vice President - WF, Mr. Sunil Dahiya, EVP - WF, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI and Col. Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI during the exchange of MoU

The initiative is designed to sharpen soft skills, enhance communication, build confidence, and provide AI-driven mock interviews with personalized feedback. By combining structured training with cutting-edge technology, the program aims to prepare students effectively for placement opportunities and align them with evolving industry expectations.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI and Mr. Sunil Dahiya, Executive Vice President (EVP) - WF. The signing ceremony was conducted in the esteemed presence of Col. Pankaj Kumar Sinha, Secretary, FDDI, Mr. Manoj Agrawal, CAO, FDDI, Mr.

Prashant Saxena, Head – Business Development, FDDI-HO, Col. Santosh Jha, Vice President - WF, Mr. Raman Handa, Director - WF, Ms. Priyanka Panwar, Consultant - WF, and Ms. Sheetal Bhandari, Program Manager - WF.

This partnership underscores FDDI's commitment to equipping its graduates not only with strong technical expertise but also with the employability skills required to succeed in today's competitive global market.

FDDI, India Signs Landmark MoA with the University of Northampton, UK

FDDI, India has signed a comprehensive Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the University of Northampton (UoN), United Kingdom (UK).



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On behalf of FDDI, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), signed the MoA whereas from UoN, Mr. Anne-Marie Kilday, Vice – Chancellor and Professor of Criminal History signed the MoA on 13th August 2025 which will remain in force for three years, with provisions for renewal by mutual consent.



From Left: Mr. Mathew Hanes, Global Director, UoN and Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI exchanging the MoA

This landmark partnership not only strengthens institutional collaboration but also creates opportunities for FDDI students – both past and present – to pursue globally recognized programs at UoN. It encompasses the introduction of international programs such as dual-degree and joint academic initiatives to broaden academic mobility, the launch of specialized short-term, medium-term, and niche courses tailored to industry needs, faculty and student exchange initiatives to foster cross-border knowledge sharing, and collaborative research and development to drive innovation and address emerging industry challenges.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI, said: “This partnership with the University of Northampton is a milestone in FDDI's journey towards globalizing its academic ecosystem. It will not only provide our students and alumni with world-class opportunities but also position FDDI as a hub for international academic collaboration.”

This collaboration is expected to significantly enhance FDDI's global presence, empower students with advanced learning pathways, and strengthen India's footprint in international footwear, fashion, and design education.

FDDI Observes Swachhata Hi Seva 5.0 Across All Campuses

FDDI, observed Swachhata Hi Seva 5.0 from 15th September to 2nd October 2025 across all campuses, celebrating the vision of Mahatma Gandhi and promoting collective responsibility for cleanliness, hygiene, and environmental sustainability.

During the initiative, FDDI campuses undertook a wide range of activities, including identification and cleaning of Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs) with before-and-after documentation on the SHS portal, Swachhata Pledge ceremonies for staff and students, and regular cleanliness drives within classrooms, offices, workshops, labs, and surrounding communities.

Health check-ups, blood donation camps, awareness programs, and recognition sessions were organised for sanitation workers under the Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir. Advocacy and awareness campaigns included poster, slogan, and



A view of Shramdaan - Ek Din, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath



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Best Out of Waste & quiz competitions, awareness rallies, and social media campaigns across Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Threads.

Additionally, campuses managed e-waste and scrap disposal, conducted Shramdaan on 25th September, and organised tree plantation drives to promote environmental sustainability.



Sanitation workers at Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivir



A view of the plantation drive

These efforts resulted in strong participation from students, staff, and community members, contributing meaningfully to the Government's Swachhata Hi Seva mission through both digital and physical initiatives.



Cleanliness drive



Poster making & awareness creation

The campaign reinforced FDDI's commitment to cleanliness, sustainability, and community service, while the recognition and appreciation of Safai Mitras highlighted the inclusivity and dignity of labour.



Essential health screenings & consultations at Health check-up camp



Media coverage



Best Out of Waste



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FDDI Rohtak Hosts “SAMVAAD – Industry Academia Conclave” Where Industry Meets Innovation

FDDI, Rohtak, hosted the mega event “SAMVAAD – Industry Academia Conclave (Where Industry Meets Innovations)” on 4th October 2025. The conclave was inaugurated by Shri Narbir Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries & Commerce, Government of Haryana, in the presence of Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI; Ms. Sarita Duhan, Executive Director (ED), FDDI Rohtak; Mr. Vipin Seth, Director, Versatile Group; Mr. Deepak Manchanda, Owner, Top Lasts; Mr. Sanjay Gupta, President – IFCOMA and Mr. Subhash Jagga, President, Bahadurgarh Footwear Association.



A view of the inaugural lamp lighting ceremony

The Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the newly established Footwear Design Courses and Visual Merchandising (VM) Lab, accompanied by Mr. Vivek Sharma and Ms. Sarita Duhan. Ms. Duhan briefed the dignitaries on the institute's academic initiatives, highlighting that the curriculum is designed to impart cutting-edge, industry-relevant skills aligned with emerging technologies. She also emphasized the campus's efforts in promoting Khadi under the 'Make in India' initiative, with students showcasing Khadi-based footwear and apparel during a fashion show.

Commending these initiatives, the Hon'ble Minister appreciated the creative use of Khadi and remarked that “entrepreneurship is pivotal to a nation's progress.” Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI, lauded the newly introduced programs for strengthening industry collaboration and enhancing students' global competitiveness.

The conclave featured a series of engaging panel discussions with principals, industry experts, and students.



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The Principals' Panel, on "Importance of Design Thinking and Awareness in School Curriculum," saw educationists including Dr. Sunita Kaushik, Mr. S.S. Shekhawat, Ms. Riswant Kaur, Ms. Ritu, Ms. Tanvi Phatianiya, and Mr. Rajiv advocate integrating design thinking into early education to foster creativity and problem-solving.



Dignitaries launching new courses of FDDI

The Industry Panel, on "Industry Pain Points and the Role of Industry-Academia Collaboration," brought together experts like Mr. Shammi Bansal (Liberty Shoes Pvt. Ltd.), Mr. Deepak Manchanda (Top Lasts), Mr. Vipin Seth (Versatile Group), and Mr. Pardeep Aggarwal (Classic Group), who emphasized the need for closer partnerships to bridge skill gaps and promote technological advancement.



Shri Narbir Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industries & Commerce, Government of Haryana addressing the audience



Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI delivering the Keynote Address



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The Student Panel, themed “Emerging Trends in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Footwear and Fashion Industry),” highlighted how AI is revolutionizing design, production, and customer experiences.



Panel discussion in progress

The conclave concluded with a cultural and fashion showcase, where students from FDDI Rohtak and Noida presented themed collections — “Sutra” (Khadi dresses) and “Parampra” (Indo-Western fusion) — along with an innovative footwear segment titled “Swadeshi Chal,” featuring Khadi-based designs and vibrant sneakers. A soulful patriotic performance by students from SRS School added to the evening's vibrancy.



Dignitaries visiting VM Lab



Ms. Sarita Duhan, ED, FDDI Rohtak delivering Vote of Thanks

Distinguished alumni of FDDI Rohtak were felicitated by the MD, FDDI, for their remarkable contributions to the industry. The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Sarita Duhan, ED, FDDI Rohtak, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, industry leaders, academicians, media representatives, and students for making SAMVAAD 2025 a grand success.



Cultural performance by FDDI, Rohtak students



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Two-Day Vendor Development Programme cum Exhibition on 'Non-Leather Footwear & Accessories'

A two-day Vendor Development Programme cum Exhibition on 'Non-Leather Footwear & Accessories' was organized by Bahadurgarh Footwear Development Services (BFDS) and the Ministry of MSME, in association with FDDI, on 18th and 19th September 2025 at Bahadurgarh, Haryana. The event brought together key stakeholders from the footwear and fashion ecosystem, including footwear manufacturers, accessory suppliers, testing laboratories, and machinery manufacturers.



Inaugural lamp lighting ceremony graced by esteemed dignitaries

FDDI Rohtak actively participated by setting up an exhibition stall that showcased innovative footwear and fashion product designs created by students. Both students and faculty members engaged meaningfully with visitors and industry professionals, gaining valuable exposure to current market trends, manufacturing techniques, and consumer expectations.



A view of the stall of FDDI

The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries, including Mr. Vipul Goel, Hon'ble Minister of Revenue & Disaster Management, Government of Haryana; Mr. Vivek Sharma, Managing Director, FDDI; Mr. Subhash Jagga, Director-Administrator, BFDS Bahadurgarh; Mr. Sanjeev Chawla, Additional Development Commissioner, MSME, DFO, Karnal; Ms. Sarita Duhan, Executive Director, FDDI Rohtak; and Mr. R.K. Gupta, Chairman, BFDS Bahadurgarh, among others. Their presence and encouragement greatly motivated the students to continue pursuing innovation and excellence in design and product development.



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The programme concluded with a vibrant Cultural Evening organized by FDDI Rohtak, featuring a captivating footwear and fashion show. Students showcased their creative designs, skills, and craftsmanship through an impressive ramp presentation. The evening seamlessly blended tradition with innovation, marking a memorable milestone in FDDI Rohtak's academic and creative journey.



Inaugural lamp lighting ceremony graced by esteemed dignitaries

FDDI Participates in World Food India 2025

FDDI actively participated in World Food India 2025, held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, from 25th to 28th September 2025. The event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi in the presence of Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Dmitry Patrushev, Union Ministers Shri Chirag Paswan and Shri Prataprao Jadhav, and Minister of State Shri Ravneet Singh.



Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, MD, FDDI (at center) interacting with a start-ups working on innovative vegan materials

Organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), the mega exhibition featured Partner and Focus Country pavilions, Central Ministries, State Governments, DPIIT-supported start-ups, leading Indian and international MNCs, as well as enterprises under the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme.

As part of the event, FDDI showcased its marketing pod through its venture International Testing, Research & Training Center (ITRTC) at the DPIIT Central Ministerial Pavilion.

Mr. Vivek Sharma, IRS, Managing Director (MD), FDDI, along with the Business Development Team (Head Office), engaged with key stakeholders including the Under Secretary, Ministry of Food



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Processing Industries, and senior officials from NIFTEM. The team also connected with leading incubators such as CSIR-NIIST and explored partnerships with start-ups working on innovative vegan materials.



A view of the stall of FDDI

Through its participation, FDDI reaffirmed its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and industry / institute collaboration, contributing to India's vision of becoming a global hub for food processing and allied industries. FDDI also engaged extensively with Food Business Operators (FBOs) to explore collaboration opportunities, understand sectoral requirements, and highlight its advanced capabilities in food testing.

The exhibition witnessed strong participation from start-ups, exporters, and international delegates, offering valuable insights into cutting-edge food safety technologies, packaging, preservation, and sustainable innovations, with a focus on value addition and enhancing the global export competitiveness of Indian products.

FDDI's CoE Hyderabad Hosts 1st CoE-FD-RFM-FDP-LGAD National Research Conclave (CFRFLRC 2025)

The 1st CoE- FD-RFM-FDP-LGAD National Research Conclave, also known as 1st CFRFLRC 2025—was successfully organized on 04th September 2025, at FDDI Hyderabad as part of the institute's annual research initiative. The conclave brought together esteemed guests, faculty members, and students for a day of insightful sessions centered on innovation, technology, design, production, and merchandising within the footwear, fashion, and lifestyle sectors. The event saw participation from around 80 delegates, faculty, and students.



Dr. N. Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, ED, FDDI Hyderabad outlining the vision & significance of the event for the research community



Mr. Nataraj Nadumuru, Deputy Director, IIP, Hyderabad and Mr. Subhajit Saha, Head – Legal & IPR, LCGC Resolute Group of Companies sharing their views

The conclave marked a significant step in highlighting research conducted by FDDI students across campuses—work that often goes unnoticed. It served as a unique platform to showcase research potential and promote a stronger culture of innovation and inquiry among students. The initiative, being the first-of-its-kind across all FDDI campuses, witnessed enthusiastic participation even from junior students, reflecting a promising future for research and development at the institute.



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The conclave was held under the patronage of Dr. N. Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director (ED), FDDI Hyderabad, and graced by Mr. Nataraj Nadumuru, Deputy Director, Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), Hyderabad, as the Guest of Honour. The event was chaired by Dr. Abhirup Chatterjee, Senior Project Scientist & Head, Centres of Excellence at Hyderabad, Jodhpur, and Rohtak campuses, with Mr. Abdul Rahuman M., Senior Faculty Grade II & Head, FDP, FDDI Hyderabad, serving as the Conclave Secretary. Distinguished guests from reputed institutions and organizations including IIP Hyderabad, LCGC Resolute Group of Companies, and LEPRASOCIETY were also present, enriching the academic and professional depth of the event.



Dr. Abhirup Chatterjee, Senior Project Scientist & Head, CoEs sharing views on promising future for research culture at FDDI



Students attending the 1st CFRFLRC 2025

The keynote sessions provided valuable insights from industry experts and thought leaders. Mr. Nataraj Nandamuru, Deputy Director & Regional Officer, IIP, delivered a compelling talk on “Sustainable Packaging Practices in Footwear & Fashion: Challenges & Opportunities,” emphasizing the need for eco-friendly packaging solutions in the fashion and footwear sectors. Mr. Subhajit Saha, Head – Legal & IPR, LCGC Resolute Group of Companies, spoke on “Intellectual Property Rights – Scope,

Opportunities and Avenues,” highlighting the growing importance of intellectual property protection and innovation management in the global business landscape.

FDDI faculty members presented a range of research works demonstrating interdisciplinary expertise and industry relevance. Ms. Thakur Rajnandhini (Entrepreneur & FDP Hyderabad Alumna) presented her study on Research Methods for Incorporating Biodegradable Components into Polyurethane Formulations for Insole Applications. Mr. Naresh Kumar Sharma, Senior Faculty (FDP), discussed Dance Shoes: Performance & Comfort. Mr. Mohammed Gofran, Senior Faculty Grade II (LGAD), shared findings on Evaluating Efficiency of Sorting of Second-hand Clothing – A Case Study. Dr. Rambabu Muppidi (LGAD) presented Sculpting Sustainability, while Mr. M. D. Prince Joseph, Senior Faculty Grade II (FDP), spoke on Foot Abnormalities: Understanding Prevalence, Impact, and Innovative Solutions. The session concluded with Ms. Soumya Srivastava, Junior Faculty (FD), presenting her research on Fast Fashion.

The conclave dedicated a special session for student researchers to present their projects through oral and poster presentations. A total of nine posters were displayed, showcasing diverse themes from footwear design and fashion innovation to digital retail, neuroscience, and sustainability. Ms. Midhat Ansari explored Designing Customized Orthotic Footwear Systems through Foot Scanning and 3D Modelling Interfaces, while Ms. Riya Mishra discussed Footwear Customization – Form vs Function. Ms. Sharvani Vallarapu presented Design and Development of Belts: Exploring Materials and Techniques for Ralph Lauren SS-27, and Ms. Benecia Mariam Babu shared her study From Artisan to Avatar: Integrating India's Cultural Craft Narratives into Digital Retail Interfaces. Ms. Meera Krishna G. addressed Fitting In or Left Out: Generational and Digital Exclusion in India's AR/VR Fashion Retail Revolution, and Ms. Tummalapalli Chinmayee discussed Research on Neuro-Aromatics for Schizophrenia and Insomnia. Additional student presentations included Ms. Shreya Sanoj Kareepdath's Yang Hobo – Handle Research, Ms. Harshitha Gunisetty's Nomadic Pulse – Protection that Responds Like a Pulse, Ms. Ayesha Mehreen's Logo and Branding Research, and Mr. Priyanshu Nigam's Wage Stagnation within Creative Sector Labours.

The conclave concluded with a summary of outcomes, closing remarks by the Patron, and a vote of thanks by the Conclave Secretary. Networking sessions held over high tea, lunch, and poster interactions encouraged collaboration and knowledge sharing among participants.

The 1st CFRFLRC 2025 served as a milestone in fostering research synergy, knowledge dissemination, and academic collaboration within the footwear, leather goods, fashion, and retail merchandise domains—reaffirming FDDI Hyderabad's commitment to excellence in research and innovation.



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KVIC 25-Day Residential Training Program Successfully Concludes at FDDI Jodhpur

FDDI Jodhpur successfully organized a 25-day residential training program from 26th August to 30th September 2025 in collaboration with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The program was designed to focus on skill development, entrepreneurship, and industry-oriented training, with the objective of empowering traditional artisans and promoting sustainable livelihoods.



Participants gaining hands-on experience



Participants receiving the Certificate of Completion

Artisans from the Barmer region actively participated in the program, gaining hands-on experience and exposure to modern design techniques and contemporary production practices. The valedictory session was graced by Mr. Ashok Chouhan, Founder of Mahesh Handicraft, as the Chief Guest, who highlighted the importance of skill enhancement and innovation in today's competitive market.

This initiative marks another proud milestone for FDDI Jodhpur, reaffirming its commitment to capacity building, artisan empowerment, and bridging the gap between traditional craftsmanship and modern industry requirements.

QCI On-Site Impact Assessment Visit at FDDI Hyderabad

Mr. Devendra Mahajan, Sustainability Professional and Assessor Team Member from the Quality Council of India (QCI), conducted an on-site visit to FDDI Hyderabad for the Impact Assessment of the Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP) Scheme for FY 2021-26. The visit held on 29th September 2025 was coordinated in consultation with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. The primary objective was to evaluate the implementation, impact, and effectiveness of the Establishment of Institutional Facilities (EIF) sub-schemes under IFLDP at FDDI Hyderabad.



Operational demonstration by the students



From Left: Mr. Devendra Mahajan, Sustainability Professional and Assessor Team Member from QCI being briefed by Dr. Narasimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director, FDDI and Mr. Abdul Rahuman M, Sr. Faculty & HoD, FDP

The agenda featured structured activities showcasing FDDI's capabilities. Students, under faculty supervision, demonstrated the operation of the PVC Injection Moulding Machine, highlighting its role in non-leather footwear production. The QCI team also visited the Saili Store to review FDDI's diverse leather and non-leather products, with faculty elaborating on product development and consultancy services.



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Faculty presentations formed a core component of the visit. The School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP) faculty highlighted leather quality parameters and demonstrated machinery used in footwear manufacturing. Mr. Abdul Rahuman M and Mr. Srinivasan K presented a detailed progress report on the EIF sub-schemes, covering consultancy services for start-ups and external stakeholders, research papers published on non-leather footwear, and the development of the SIAUR brand under consultancy projects. They also shared insights on utilization and tariff structures for non-leather footwear services and highlighted FDDI's presentation at the National Research Conclave 2025.

The visitor appreciated the structured presentations, practical demonstrations, and the active participation of students and faculty. The visit enhanced understanding of EIF sub-scheme implementation and progress at FDDI Hyderabad. It successfully demonstrated FDDI's expertise in non-leather footwear production processes, training, consultancy, and research, while also strengthening engagement with QCI for future assessments and collaborative projects.

Seminar on “Design Dexterity in Diversity” Showcases Innovation and Collaboration at FDDI Jodhpur

On 29th September 2025 FDDI, Jodhpur Campus successfully organized a seminar on “Design Dexterity in Diversity”, which featured an engaging panel discussion and an insightful poster presentation.

The event brought together renowned industry experts and eminent scholars who shared their perspectives on design thinking, innovation, and the value of diversity in creative disciplines. The panel discussion fostered meaningful dialogue on emerging trends and challenges in the design industry, while student poster presentations showcased fresh ideas, research insights, and creative problem-solving.

Serving as a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, the seminar enabled students, faculty, and professionals to interact, collaborate, and gain valuable exposure. Initiatives like these reaffirm FDDI Jodhpur's dedication to nurturing creative talent, promoting design excellence, and strengthening industry-academia collaboration.



An industry expert sharing her perspectives



Media coverage

FDDI Noida MBA Students Gain Industry Insight at UP International Trade Show 2025



FDDI, students at the UP International Trade Show 2025

On September 26, 2025, MBA students from FDDI, Noida, attended the UP International Trade Show 2025 at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida.

Guided by faculty member Ms. Rakhsham Rahim, the visit provided valuable real-world exposure beyond the classroom. The trade show, organized by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, highlighted the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, showcasing the state's diverse traditional and modern products, including textiles, handicrafts, leather goods, and industrial innovations.

Students actively interacted with entrepreneurs and international buyers, gaining practical insights into trade practices, marketing, and export strategies. This enriching



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experience successfully connected theoretical concepts with industry realities, broadening the students' understanding of both local industries and global markets.

Workshop on Application of Artificial Intelligence in Fashion, Footwear and Lifestyle Product Industries at FDDI Hyderabad

A captivating workshop on “Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Fashion, Footwear, Leather & Lifestyle Product Industries” was conducted on 26th September 2025 at FDDI Hyderabad Campus in collaboration with Advi Creations.



Workshop in progress

The session aimed to equip Foundation Batch 2025 design students with valuable insights into using AI to generate innovative concepts, predict consumer preferences, and enhance design efficiency. Students explored digital design concepts, techniques, and pattern creation, demonstrating how AI-powered tools can reduce manual effort while boosting creativity and productivity.

The workshop was conducted by Mr. Aditya Palley, Motion Graphic Design expert, Founder of Astram Studio and Advi Arts, Hyderabad, who has studied and worked in the USA. He elaborated on techniques of applying AI-driven tools and software for improved efficiency, enhanced customer experience, and greater sustainability in the fashion and footwear industry.

The workshop concluded with an engaging quiz competition, where students showcased their learning by creating design solutions on given themes. The event successfully highlighted the transformative role of AI in shaping the future of design and inspired students to embrace technology-driven creativity.

FDDI Promotes Holistic Well-Being through Mindfulness and Wellness Sessions

FDDI actively promoted holistic well-being among its students and faculty through a series of insightful sessions held across campuses in September 2025. These initiatives aimed to foster mental, emotional, and physical health — essential for creativity, productivity, and personal growth.

On 10th September 2025, FDDI Rohtak hosted a session on “Meditation for Mental & Emotional Well-Being” conducted by Mr. Rajinder Arora, who shared practical techniques to reduce stress, enhance concentration, and cultivate inner peace. Participants also experienced the calming effects of guided meditation.



Participants attending the session at FDDI Rohtak



A view of the participants attending the session at FDDI Jodhpur



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Continuing the wellness drive, FDDI Jodhpur organized an interactive session on 12th September 2025 titled “Mindfulness & Well-being: An Important Aspect to Development”, conducted by Group Captain H.J. Singh (Retd.) and presided over by Mr. Anil Kumar, Executive Director. The session emphasized mindfulness as a key to personal growth, creativity, and balanced living, encouraging students to integrate physical and mental wellness practices into their daily routines.

Furthering this effort, FDDI Jodhpur also held an expert session on 20th September 2025 on “Identifying Burnout and Coping with Daily Stress”, conducted by Ms. Khushboo Khare. The session focused on recognizing early signs of burnout and adopting healthy coping strategies such as mindfulness, regular exercise, and effective time management. Students actively engaged in discussions, sharing personal insights and experiences.



A view of the session at FDDI Fursatganj



Ms. Khushboo Khare taking the session

Concluding the month's activities, FDDI Fursatganj organized a workshop on 24th September 2025 on “Stress Management and Mental Well-Being”, led by Dr. Anupam Singh, a renowned psychiatrist. Dr. Singh provided practical tools for managing stress and building emotional resilience, fostering a supportive and empathetic environment for students.

Together, these initiatives reaffirm FDDI's commitment to the holistic development of its students and faculty — nurturing not just professional excellence but also emotional balance, mindfulness, and overall well-being.

Fashion Photography Workshop for FDDI Noida Students

Students of Fashion Design (Semester 7) and M. Design (Semester 3) of FDDI, Noida Campus attended an inspiring session on Fashion Photography under the subject “Fashion Styling and Fashion Photography” on 24th September 2025.



Students acquiring photography nuances

Conducted by Mr. Ajit Krishna, a professional fashion photographer, the workshop offered valuable insights into mastering photography aesthetics, exploring creative poses and expressions, and using mobile photography techniques effectively. It was an engaging and hands-on learning experience that enhanced students' visual storytelling skills and creative confidence.



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FDDI Patna Hosts Khadi Mahotsav in Collaboration with KVIC

In a vibrant celebration of India's indigenous textile heritage, FDDI, Patna Campus partnered with the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to host the Khadi Mahotsav, promoting Khadi, rural crafts, and sustainable fashion. The event held on 24th September 2025 showcased the traditional charkha popularized by Mahatma Gandhi, encouraged youth participation, and reinforced Khadi's role in self-reliance, local employment, and nation-building.



Students promoting Khadi



A student exploring the art of spinning on the traditional charkha

Today, Khadi symbolizes sustainability, slow fashion, and artisan empowerment. Through initiatives like Khadi Mahotsav, KVIC, in collaboration with FDDI, aims to bridge craftsmanship with design education, expand market access for artisans, and foster innovation in traditional fabrics, while inspiring younger generations to embrace the “Vocal for Local” movement.

FDDI Hyderabad Faculty Attends Training Programme on Packaging Materials

As part of the Faculty Development initiatives under the Academic Calendar, Mr. M.D. Prince Joseph, Senior Faculty from the School of Footwear Design and Production (FDP), FDDI Hyderabad Campus, participated in a four-day training program on “Testing and Evaluation of Packaging Materials” conducted by the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), Hyderabad from 16th to 19th September 2025.

The program combined theory sessions with hands-on laboratory training, covering key areas such as testing of paper, plastic, corrugated fibre board, metal and wooden containers, flexible bulk containers, transport simulation, and ancillary packaging technologies.

This exposure enriched knowledge on packaging evaluation methods, testing standards, and recent innovations in packaging materials. At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Prince Joseph was awarded a certificate of participation by IIP, Hyderabad.

The training is expected to significantly strengthen our academic and training efforts by integrating updated industry practices into classroom teaching and student projects.



Participants attending the Faculty Development Training Program



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FDDI Fursatganj Hosts Immersive Internship Program for Ryan International School Students

FDDI Fursatganj hosted a three-day immersive internship program from 17th to 19th September 2025 for 60 students from Ryan International School, Raebareli. The program offered hands-on exposure to typography design, smartphone photography and videography, and sustainable product design, aligning creativity with real-world applications.



Students from Ryan International School, attending the immersive internship program

Students also explored tie and dye techniques and block printing, gaining insight into traditional crafts and modern design practices. The internship concluded with the distribution of certificates of participation, celebrating a successful initiative that encouraged innovation, sustainability, and experiential learning among young minds.

Pleach India Foundation and FDDI Hyderabad Sign MoU to Host National Seminar & Exhibition on Footwear Heritage of India

The Pleach India Foundation, in collaboration with the FDDI, Hyderabad, will host a three-day National Seminar and Exhibition on the Footwear Heritage of India from 28th to 30th November 2025 at the FDDI Campus. The event will bring together scholars, designers, students, and heritage enthusiasts to celebrate and rediscover India's rich footwear traditions.

The seminar will feature scholarly discussions, exclusive exhibitions, and hands-on experiences. A highlight of the event is the "Make Your Own Chappal" workshop, allowing participants to experience the art of traditional craftsmanship. The evenings will showcase cultural programs celebrating India's diverse heritage.

To formalize the collaboration, an MoU was signed between Dr. Narasimhugari Tej Lohit Reddy, IAS, Executive Director (ED), FDDI, and Dr. Tejaswini Yarlagaadda, Chairperson, Pleach India Foundation. The organizers noted that this unique initiative will serve as a meaningful platform to connect with tradition while exploring its relevance to contemporary design and innovation.

Pleach India Foundation, a registered not-for-profit with 12A, 80G, and CSR approvals, is dedicated to preserving and



A view of MoU exchange ceremony

The MoU exchange ceremony which took place on 18th September 2025 was graced by Dr. E. Sivanagi Reddy, CEO, Pleach India Foundation; Dr. Sanathana Y. S., Director (Research & Projects); and Mr. Abdul Rehman, Head of Department, FDDI Hyderabad.



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FDDI, Kolkata Delegation Visits INSD Campus, Strengthening Academic Ties

A delegation from FDDI, Kolkata Campus, visited the International School of Design (INSD) Campus on 18th September 2025 to explore avenues for collaboration in the fields of design, innovation, and knowledge exchange.



Mr. Naveen Soni, Director, INSD, felicitating Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Kolkata, with one of the dismantled pendants of the Kasu Mala—a part of the prestigious Limca Book of Records (LBR)

During the visit, Mr. Naveen Soni, Director, INSD, felicitated Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director (ED), FDDI Kolkata, with one of the dismantled pendants of the Kasu Mala—a prestigious creation that entered the Limca Book of Records on 13th October 2018 for being the longest Kasu Mala (120 feet), jointly achieved by INSD and Shree Jeen Education Centre, Kolkata. On this occasion, Ms. Anita Ray, Head of the Fashion Design Department, FDDI, and Mrs. Basumitra Ghosh Mukherjee, Head of CoE, FDDI were also present.

The discussions centered around fostering joint academic initiatives, student and faculty exchange programs, and opportunities for co-developing workshops and specialized training modules that align with emerging industry needs.

Both institutions expressed keen interest in leveraging each other's strengths—FDDI's expertise in footwear, leather, and lifestyle

design, and INSD's achievements in fashion and creative arts—to create platforms that not only enrich student learning but also contribute to industry-relevant research and innovation. The meeting emphasized the importance of collaborative engagement to nurture young talent, celebrate cultural and academic achievements, and build pathways for future partnerships in design education and applied research.

FDDI Hyderabad Students Visit Shilparamam Craft Village

On 19th September 2025, the students of the Foundation Batch–2025 at FDDI Hyderabad Campus visited Shilparamam – A Craft Village, under the guidance of faculty members.

The visit aimed to expose students to India's craft heritage and its relevance in contemporary design. Shilparamam, known for its vibrant atmosphere and cultural preservation, showcases a wide range of crafts including traditional jewelry, handwoven textiles, wooden handicrafts, pottery, glasswork, paintings, and metalware.

Students also explored the Hathkargha Mela (State Handloom Expo or SHE) organized by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, where they studied artistry, detailing, textures, and craftsmanship from artisans across India.

The experience provided students with valuable insights to integrate traditional techniques into their projects and creative assignments.



Students at Shilparamam-A Craft Village



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FDDI Kolkata Holds Meeting with NIFT Kolkata to Explore Academic and Research Collaboration



From Right to Left: Mrs. Anita Ray, HoD, FD, FDDI; Mr. Neeraj Kumar, ED, FDDI Kolkata; Dr. Brijesh Deore, Director, NIFT-Kolkata; and Mrs. Basumitra Ghosh Mukherjee, Head of CoE

A meeting was held on 18th September 2025 at the NIFT Kolkata Campus between Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director, FDDI Kolkata, and Dr. Brijesh Deore, Director, NIFT Kolkata to discuss collaborative research and development initiatives.

The discussion also focused on a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen academic and research partnerships between the two institutes. Ms. Anita Ray, Head of the Fashion Design Department, FDDI, and Mrs. Basumitra Ghosh Mukherjee, Head of CoE, also attended the meeting.

'Asthara' – Exhibition, Jury & Display at FDDI Hyderabad

The Hyderabad campus of FDDI organized 'Asthara' – Exhibition, Jury & Display on 12th September 2025, marking the final day of the Midterm Jury.

Students of Foundation Batch–2025 showcased their artistic craftsmanship by presenting self-designed and developed mesmerizing utility products. These creations were outcomes of their first semester subjects, including Design Project–1, Tinkering Studio, Design Evolution in Nature & Manmade World, Observational Drawing, Communication Skills, 2D CAD, and 3D CAD.



Students briefing & presenting their products to the Jury



Creative outcome by the students

During the exhibition, students presented and explained their product design concepts, techniques, creative ideas, and thought processes to eminent jury members. The jury highly appreciated the innovative outcomes and applauded the efforts of the students under the guidance and mentorship of their faculty.

The event also highlighted the students' experimentation with creativity and innovation. Their stunning products, developed around diverse themes, reflected their growing ability to align with global market demands and prepare for forthcoming academic sessions.



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FDDI Patna Participates in CBSE National Teachers' Conference on STEM Education

Mr. Neeraj Kumar, Executive Director (ED), FDDI, Patna Campus participated in the prestigious CBSE National Teachers' Conference on STEM Education held in Patna, themed "Fostering Scientific Temper, Innovation, and STEM Competencies" on 12th September 2025. The conference brought together educators, policymakers, and industry leaders to share best practices in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education.

In his address, Mr. Kumar emphasized the importance of integrating design thinking and innovation into mainstream education, highlighting how FDDI bridges the gap between industry needs and academic frameworks. "STEM education, combined with real-world applications like footwear design, sustainable materials, and smart manufacturing, drives both employment and entrepreneurship," he noted.



Mr. Neeraj Kumar, ED, FDDI Patna Campus addressing during Conference on STEM Education



A view of the audience

Mr. Kumar also shared FDDI's initiatives in vocational education, skill development, and youth entrepreneurship in Bihar and encouraged teachers to introduce students to applied sciences and product design through experiential learning.

FDDI Hyderabad Hosts "Crafting Your Creative Identity" Portfolio Workshop

The School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP), at FDDI, Hyderabad Campus, organized a workshop on "Crafting Your Creative Identity: A Portfolio Building Workshop" on 12th September 2025. The session was conducted by Dr. Fatima Bilgrami, an eminent academican and design professional, who guided students on the importance of developing a strong portfolio as a reflection of their creative identity and professional competence.



Workshop in progress

Dr. Bilgrami, Ph.D. in Fashion Design from Banasthali Vidyapith University, Jaipur, brings over three decades of experience in academia and industry. She has served as Associate Professor of Fashion Design at NIFT Hyderabad and has taught internationally at Al Ghurair University, Dubai. Her expertise spans fashion design education, craft research, costume history, and surface development techniques.

During the workshop, Dr. Bilgrami provided valuable insights on structuring, curating, and presenting portfolios to effectively communicate design skills, thought processes, and



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innovation. She emphasized the importance of aligning portfolio content with both industry expectations and personal career goals.

Through live examples and interactive discussions, students learned about the essentials of portfolio development, including layout, visual hierarchy, and storytelling through design work. They also gained clarity on common mistakes to avoid and best practices to showcase academic, creative, and industrial projects.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A segment, where students actively sought guidance on refining their portfolios for internships, job applications, and higher studies. The Fabulous Friday Workshop once again provided a platform for knowledge sharing and skill enhancement, reinforcing FDDI Hyderabad's commitment to nurturing industry-ready designers.

Natural Dye & Eco-Print Workshop for FDDI, Noida Students

FDDI students gained essential skills in sustainable fashion during an intensive Three-Day Natural Dye & Eco-Print Workshop held on from 11th to 13th September 2025, led by expert Mr. Deepesh Wadhvani.

The workshop provided hands-on training in environmentally conscious design and a complete sustainability cycle. Students learned to extract natural dyes and implement zero-waste principles, repurposing all plant residue into manure. They then used eco-printing methods to create unique, contemporary fabric designs rooted in traditional techniques.

This initiative reinforces FDDI's commitment to preparing students for the evolving fashion industry, where sustainability is a crucial consideration. The experience equipped students with valuable skills and a deep appreciation for the aesthetic and ecological benefits necessary for careers in sustainable design.



A view of the workshop

FDDI, Hyderabad Faculty Publishes Book on Nuziveedu Veena

Dr. Rambabu Muppidi, Faculty - LGAD, at FDDI Hyderabad Campus, has authored, edited, and documented a remarkable craft book titled "Nuziveedu Veena: A Source of Beautiful Melodies" (ISBN: 978-93-83729-10-9).

The book was formally released on 09th September 2025 during the 8th Handicrafts Exhibition and Promotion. At the special ceremony, the first copy was presented by Mr. Vishva, Managing Director, Lepakshi Handicrafts & MSME Andhra Pradesh, to Mr. Lakshminath, OSD, Lepakshi Handicrafts. The occasion was filled with pride and joy, celebrating India's living heritage.



Dr. Rambabu Muppidi, Faculty,
LGAD, FDDI, Hyderabad Campus



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Source : <https://epaper.sakshi.com/>

Media coverage

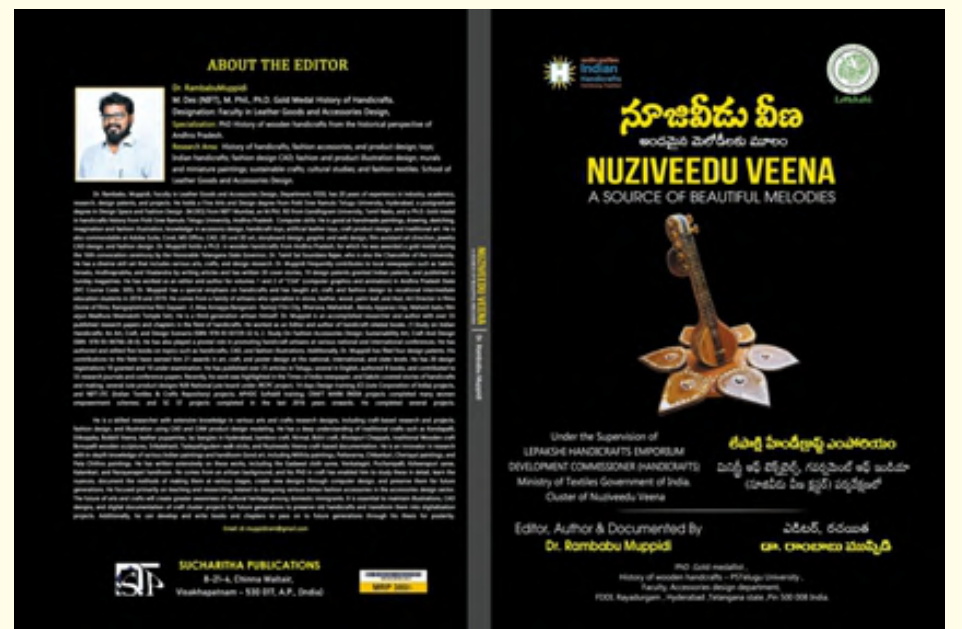


Image of the book - Nuziveedu Veena

This comprehensive publication documents the rare and unique Nuziveedu Veena, capturing the complete process of its making, the materials used, and the training initiatives for artisans supported by Lepakshi Handicrafts and the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), New



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Delhi. Notably, the book highlights the invaluable contribution of the renowned artisan Shri Mabu Sheikh Subhani and his family, who pioneered the first Veena manufacturing center in the region. Their family legacy, detailed in the book, reflects how this craft has been preserved across generations.

Co-authored by Mrs. Vanaja Kalapala, the book goes beyond technical documentation to portray the lifestyle, struggles, and dedication of Veena artisans, emphasizing their role in safeguarding India's cultural identity. It stands as both a tribute and a guide—motivating craftsmen, supporting researchers, educating students, and inspiring music enthusiasts.

The release of “Nuziveedu Veena: A Source of Beautiful Melodies” brought immense happiness to the artisan community and reaffirmed their importance in preserving India's intangible cultural heritage. It is a significant step toward the revival and recognition of this exceptional art form.

FDDI Fursatganj Hosts AI Youth Skills Training Program under UP Government's AI Pragma Initiative

The AI Youth Skills Training Program was held at FDDI Fursatganj on 4th September 2025 under the Uttar Pradesh Government's AI Pragma initiative, organized by 1 Million 1 Billion (1M1B). Led by Mr. Ajitesh Suman, the session introduced students to key concepts of artificial intelligence, its limitations, and emerging career opportunities, while addressing questions about AI's impact on employment.



Mr. Ajitesh Suman briefing about key concepts of artificial intelligence

Executive Director Mr. Sunil Kumar Dwivedi emphasized that AI is designed to assist humanity, not replace it, and reaffirmed FDDI's commitment to promoting intellectual and technical growth among students. The program marked a vital step toward preparing learners for the future of technology.

FDDI Campuses Conduct Rashtriya Karmayogi Training Sessions to Strengthen Professional Excellence

FDDI continued its commitment to capacity building and professional development through Rashtriya Karmayogi training sessions across its campuses in September 2025.



Participants of activity session at FDDI, Chennai and Fursatganj Campus

On 3rd September 2025, the FDDI Chennai Campus hosted a session facilitated by Dr. D. Anita Rachel and Mr. Rishabh Gupta. Participants engaged in interactive activities designed to instill the core values of a true Karmayogi—dedication, integrity, and selflessness. The session emphasized teamwork, practical application, and experiential learning, with collaborative exercises, thought-provoking discussions, and real-world scenarios encouraging participants to reflect on their roles and align their contributions with institutional goals while upholding ethical standards.



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Following this, on 11th September 2025, the FDDI Fursatganj Campus conducted a workshop led by Mr. Sanjay Jha from FDDI Noida. The workshop focused on enhancing professional skills and workplace effectiveness, with attendees actively participating in interactive sessions that explored methodologies to improve productivity, personal development, and overall professional effectiveness.

These initiatives, aligned with the Government of India's Mission Karmayogi, aim to foster a culture of continuous learning, professional excellence, and nation-building. By investing in such programs, FDDI empowers its workforce to reach their full potential while contributing to a more skilled, adaptable, and ethical professional environment.

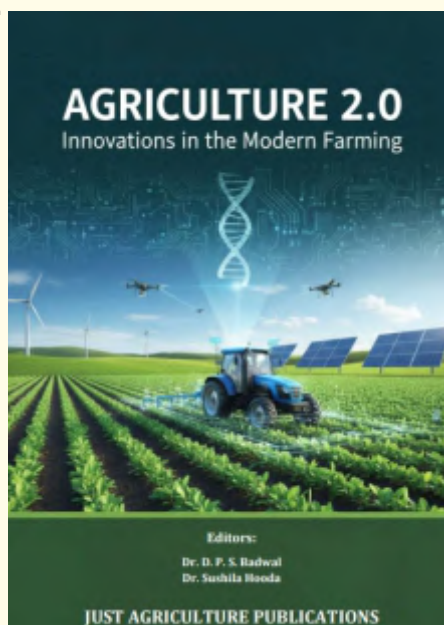
FDDI, Rohtak and Noida Faculty Contribute to Book on Innovative Agrotextile Solutions

Dr. Sarita Devi and Dr. Sushila from the School of Fashion Design at Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Rohtak and Noida campuses, have co-authored a book chapter titled "Modern Farming Solutions Through Agrotextiles" in the book "Agriculture 2.0: Innovation in Modern Farming" (ISBN: 978-93-344-1754-8).

Their chapter underscores the growing importance of agrotextiles in modern agriculture, which constitute nearly 8% of the global technical textiles market. It highlights how agrotextiles contribute to enhancing crop quality, increasing yield, and minimizing damage and economic losses.

As the global population rises, the authors point out that conventional farming methods dependent on pesticides and herbicides are inadequate for ensuring food security. In this context, agrotextiles emerge as a sustainable and innovative solution, bridging the gap

between agriculture and textile technology for a more resilient and efficient farming future.



Cover page of the book



Certificate of Publication

Industry Visit to Ayyappa Enterprises – FDDI, Chennai Students Gain Insights on Woven Leather Craftsmanship

On 03rd September 2025, a group of 35 students from the B.Des- Footwear Design & Production (FDP), (7th & 5th Semester) and M.Des - FDP (3rd Semester) programs at FDDI, Chennai visited Ayyappa Enterprises, located at Nelson Manickam Road, Chennai.



Students observing the Woven shoe making process



Students being briefed about the weaving process by Mr. Karthik, Technical expert of the company



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Ayyappa Enterprises is a renowned manufacturer of leather products under the brand name Calonge, an exclusive Spanish label of hand-woven leather accessories. Calonge is celebrated for its unique blend of Spanish design creativity and Indian craftsmanship, creating a premium niche in the luxury leather segment and earning admiration from fashion-conscious women worldwide.

During the visit, students observed the woven shoe-making process step by step and received detailed briefings on weaving techniques from the company's technical experts. Mr. Pandi and Mr. Karthik, specialists from Ayyappa Enterprises, explained the various stages of woven shoe and leather goods manufacturing, including the use of automated machinery, tools, and equipment. The students also gained exposure to the wide variety of materials used in woven footwear and accessories production.

Accompanied by their faculty, they were given an in-depth understanding of leather weaving techniques—both machine-made and handwoven—covering braided and interlaced models of shoes and leather goods. They also explored the entire woven leather process, from raw material selection to cutting, skiving, strip preparation, colouring, and diverse weaving methods.

The industry visit provided students with practical knowledge and real-time industrial exposure, strengthening their understanding of woven leather footwear and accessories production—an invaluable addition to their design and production learning journey.

FDDI Foundation Students Bridge Past and Present with Dual Educational Visits to National Museum and Lalit Kala Akademi

FDDI Noida's Foundation Batch students completed a series of enriching educational visits, successfully linking India's historical design heritage with the cutting edge of contemporary art. These trips—to the National Museum and the Lalit Kala Akademi—were designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the evolution and future of design.

On August 28th, September 2nd, and 3rd 2025, the Foundation Batch embarked on a journey to the National Museum. This visit was a critical exploration of the roots of Indian craftsmanship and aesthetics. Each gallery served as a lesson in history, revealing how design has consistently served a purpose far beyond mere decoration.

Students immersed themselves in textiles, jewelry, and ancient sculptures. The experience was particularly impactful for design majors; for instance, a footwear design student shared how viewing ancient paadukaaye (traditional footwear) immediately sparked a rush of creative ideas and instilled a newfound appreciation for India's long-standing tradition of fine craftsmanship.



Students at National Museum



Students at Lalit Kala Akademi

With faculty guidance, students learned to critically analyze the intentions behind historical pieces, highlighting the global relevance of indigenous aesthetics. The visit underscored how the rich artistic heritage of India continues to inspire global luxury brands, providing students with valuable lessons for their own design careers.

Following their historical exploration, students shifted their focus to the present, visiting the Lalit Kala Akademi on 1st and 4th September 2025. This visit provided crucial academic exposure to contemporary art practices.

Students engaged with vibrant and thought-provoking artworks that challenged conventional forms while remaining rooted in cultural context. The open-ended nature of the art encouraged deep, personal interpretation, sharpening the students' skills in observation and critical analysis—fundamental elements of the design process.



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The visit emphasized that design is an active force in shaping new traditions, not just preserving old ones. Furthermore, students gained valuable, real-world insights into the professional art economy, including the auction process and the viability of art as a career path, thus broadening their understanding of the creative industry as a whole.

Research on Footwear Quality Management Published in IJSCI by FDDI Chennai & Ankleshwar Faculty

Mr. M. Vishva Kumar, Senior Faculty (Grade II) at the School of Footwear Design & Production (FDP), and Mr. Abdul Swabeer M., Instructor at the Department of FDP, have co-authored a noteworthy research paper titled "Quality Management in the Footwear Industry: Strategies, Challenges, and Future Directions."



Mr. Abdul Swabeer M,
Instructor – FDP, FDDI,
Ankleshwar Campus



Certificate of Publication



Mr. Vishva Kumar, Senior
Faculty (Grade II), FDP, FDDI,
Chennai, Campus



Certificate of Publication

Published in the International Journal of Sciences and Innovation Engineering (IJSCI), Volume 2, Issue 9, September 2025 (ISSN: 3049-0251), the study underscores the critical role of quality management in ensuring product reliability, minimizing defects, and enhancing competitiveness in both domestic and global footwear markets.

The research delves into key challenges faced by the industry, including variability in raw materials, dependence on labour, global supply chain complexities, and the growing demand for sustainable practices. It proposes an integrated quality management framework specifically designed for the footwear sector. By emphasizing digital quality control systems, advanced testing methods, material traceability, and customer feedback mechanisms, the paper charts a forward-looking roadmap for strengthening the industry's global competitiveness.

This publication reflects FDDI Chennai and Ankleshwar campuses' ongoing commitment to advancing industry knowledge and fostering innovative, sustainable practices in footwear manufacturing. The paper is available at: <https://ijsci.com/index.php/home/article/view/650>

Design Patent Granted for 'Portable Dining Table' to Faculty and Student of FDDI, Hyderabad Campus, along with collaborators

A Design Patent has been granted for the innovative product 'Portable Dining Table', jointly awarded to a faculty member and student of the School of Leather Goods & Accessories Design (LGAD) of FDDI, Hyderabad Campus, along with their collaborators.



Dr. Rambabu Muppidi,
Faculty, LGAD, FDDI,
Hyderabad Campus



CAD and Manual Show case - Portable Dining
Table



Certificate of Design Patent

Dr. Rambabu Muppidi, Design Faculty, FDDI School of LGAD, Hyderabad Campus, along with his team, submitted the design titled 'Portable Dining Table' to the Indian Patent Office, Intellectual Property Building, Kolkata for design protection.

The design, bearing Design Number: 459849-001, CBR Number: 211019, Class: 06-03, was officially published in The Patent Office Journal No. 38/2025,



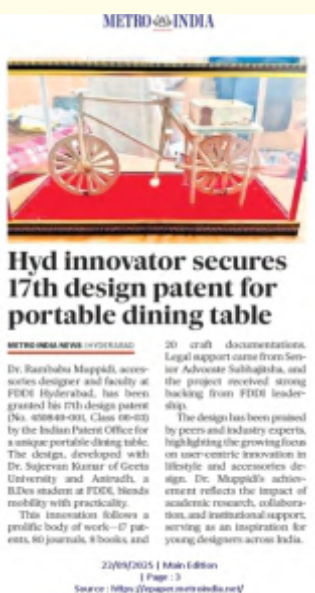
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dated 19th September 2025 (Vol. 94554, Page 66). With legal guidance and the support of Mr. Subhajit Saha, Head of Legal & IPR, Founder, Resolute 4IP, the application was submitted on 23rd May 2025 and registration was granted on 19th September 2025.

In addition to Dr. Muppidi, the project team included Mr. Sujeevan Kumar Bullard, Assistant Professor, School of Fine Arts, GITAM University, and Mr. Mattagunja Anirudh, B.Des student, LLPD, FDDI Hyderabad Campus, who made significant contributions to the research and design development.



Mr. Anirudh Mattagunja, 4th year student LLPD, FDDI, Hyderabad Campus



Media coverage



Certificate of Patent

As part of the “Design for Society” initiative, the team developed a lightweight, foldable, and portable dining table ideal for compact homes, outdoor use, and temporary dining setups. The design emphasizes convenience, flexibility, quick assembly, and accessibility.

Extensive field research in Kondapur, Gachibowli, and Rayadurgam through surveys in food stalls, vegetable markets, and catering centers helped shape the innovation.

FDDI Faculty Publishes Technical Review Article in Indian Textile Journal

A technical review article co-authored by Dr. D. Anita Rachel, Sr. Faculty Grade-II, School of Fashion Design (FD), FDDI Chennai, has been published in the August 2025 issue of the Indian Textile Journal (pp. 41–45). The article, titled “An Evaluation of Retail Fashion Brands – A Personality Perspective”, explores how brand personality shapes consumer perceptions, brand love, and brand loyalty in the fashion retail sector.

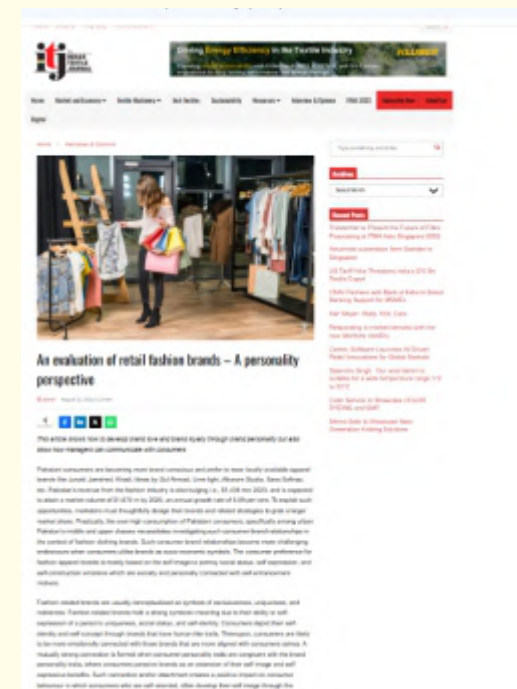
The study emphasizes that consumer preference for fashion apparel brands is largely driven by self-image, social status, self-expression, and self-construction motives. Fashion brands, often associated with exclusivity and uniqueness, serve as strong symbols of self-identity and self-enhancement. Consumers are more likely to emotionally connect with brands that exhibit human-like traits and align with their self-concept.

The article also highlights the managerial implications of building brand personality to enhance consumer–brand relationships. Future research directions include employing probability sampling methods and conducting longitudinal studies to better understand the evolving dynamics between consumers and brands.

This publication underscores FDDI's commitment to advancing research in fashion, retail, and consumer behaviour. This is available at the link <https://indiantextilejournal.com/an-evaluation-of-retail-fashion-brands-a-personality-perspective/#more>.



Dr. D. Anita Rachel, Sr. Faculty Grade-II, FD, FDDI Chennai,



Screenshot of the article



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Research Publication by FDDI Chandigarh Faculty in SCIE-Indexed Journal

FDDI is proud to announce that Dr. Prashant Tripathi (Faculty, FDP – Chandigarh), along with co-author Prof. Shankar, has published a research paper titled “Comparative Study on Wet and Dry EDM of Inconel 800” in the prestigious SCIE-indexed, Q1/Q2 journal Machining Science and Technology, published by Taylor & Francis, USA. The paper was officially published on 28th July 2025 and is listed in both Web of Science and SCOPUS. The journal bears Print ISSN 1091-0344 and Online ISSN 1532-2483.

Dr. Prashant Tripathi, Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (Unconventional Machining), is an experienced faculty at FDDI Chandigarh, heading the Non-Leather Department. With over 10 years of teaching experience, he specializes in machining, polymer processing, rapid prototyping, and 3D printing. He has supervised multiple M.Tech and B.Tech projects and published research papers in SCIE and Scopus-indexed journals.

The research, conducted on a high-precision Electric Discharge Machine (EDM) with a rotating electrode, provides significant industrial insights. It demonstrates that dry EDM, which uses compressed air instead of dielectric liquids, is not only more environmentally friendly but also delivers superior surface quality. On the other hand, wet EDM enables faster material removal, making it ideal where machining speed is critical.



Dr. Prashant Tripathi, Faculty, FDP – Chandigarh



Screenshot of the article

This publication marks an important contribution to sustainable and efficient manufacturing practices and reinforces FDDI's commitment to advancing research in cutting-edge machining technologies and advanced materials. The article is available at <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10910344.2025.2536826>

Citation:

Tripathi, P., & Singh, S. (2025). Comparative study of conventional EDM and dry EDM machinability of superalloy Inconel 800. Machining Science and Technology, Taylor & Francis, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10910344.2025.2536826>

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