



A Degree, A Journey, A New Beginning: Celebrating IICD Graduates at VSU's 2nd Convocation

The 2nd Convocation of Vishvakarma Skills University was held on April 22, 2026, at Birla Auditorium, marking a significant academic milestone.

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Strengthening Collaboration for India's Craft Sector

Bringing diverse stakeholders together for collective action

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IICD x Jaipur Rugs Foundation

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A Degree, A Journey, A New Beginning: Celebrating IICD Graduates at VSU's 2nd Convocation

22 April 2026 | Birla Auditorium, Jaipur



Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde.



Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde and, Dr. Dev Swarup.

This April, IICD graduates marked an important milestone at the 2nd Convocation of Vishvakarma Skills University. With degrees in hand and years of studio practice, craft documentation, field research and hands-on learning behind them, they now step into the next chapter of their journeys. The Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan and VSU Chancellor, Shri Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde, conferred the degrees. Chief Guest Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore and Vice Chancellor Dr Dev Swarup were also present, along with graduates, faculty and academic leaders from across VSU's affiliated institutes. In 2026, 57 IICD students received their degrees, comprising 36 undergraduate and 21 postgraduate students across its diverse design and craft programmes.

Our students don't just sit in classrooms; they document craft traditions, sit with craftspeople in their workshops, test materials, defend their ideas in critique, and build things that didn't exist before they started.

That's what shapes designers who understand craft not as a technique to extract, but as a living practice tied to real histories, communities and livelihoods. From here, our graduates go every which way into studios, startups, craft communities, research labs, industry roles, or paths nobody's invented yet. Whatever comes next, IICD will be part of how they approach it.

Congratulations to every graduate who received their degree at VSU's 2nd Convocation. This isn't the end of the story; it's where you start writing your own. The classroom ends. The learning doesn't.



IICD students being conferred with degrees.

Annual Placement Drive 2026 at IICD Jaipur

29 May 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

The Indian Institute of Crafts & Design (IICD), Jaipur, successfully organised its Annual Placement Drive on 20, 21, and 22 May 2026, bringing together leading organizations and industry partners to connect with the Institute's graduating students. As one of India's premier institutes dedicated to crafts and design education, IICD continues its mission of promoting crafts and artisans within the contemporary socio-economic landscape, while equipping students with industry-ready skills.

The three-day drive witnessed participation from 25 companies from across India, representing diverse sectors within the design and creative industries. Participating organizations included Woodform, World of Stones, Third Space, Gad Fashions Jaipur, Awdhesh Kumar Hand Block Prints, Chitrika, Pacific Quartz Surfaces LLP, Nila House, and ADIGAMI, among others.

The event provided students a valuable platform to showcase their creative, technical, and design capabilities to prospective employers, while enabling participating organizations to engage with skilled, socially conscious young professionals from the crafts and design domain.

Beyond recruitment, the placement drive served as a meaningful bridge between education and industry, creating opportunities for dialogue, collaboration and knowledge exchange. The diverse participation reflects the growing demand for professionals who can bring together creative thinking, technical skills and an understanding of India's rich craft traditions. For IICD students, the experience marked an important step towards translating their academic learning into professional practice and contributing meaningfully to the evolving landscape of crafts, design and creative enterprise.



Mangalam Arts Team at IICD Placement Drive.



IICD Placement Drive, 2026

awdhesh Kumar
A House of Traditional Hand Block Print

GAD
FASHIONS

nila
HOUSE

 **Manglam Arts**

 **PACIFIC**
QUARTZ SURFACES

ARTASIA
Furniture. Textile. Rugs


WOODFORM

Companies that participated in the Placement Drive.

Strengthening Collaboration for India's Craft Sector

29 May 2026 | IICD, Jaipur



Mr. Virendra Sharma- Head- Northern Regional Office-DC(H), Prof.G.H.S. Prasad - Director NIFT, Jodhpur, Mr. Rahul Mishra- Director- KVIC, Jaipur, Prof (Dr.) Toolika Gupta- Director, IICD.

Craft thrives through collaboration. Recognising the need for greater coordination across the craft ecosystem, the Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India (HSC Jaipur), organised a Cross-Functional Convergence Meeting at IICD Jaipur. Chaired by Shri Virendra Kumar, Regional Director, Northern Region Office, the meeting brought together representatives from 21 key organisations working across artisans, handicrafts and MSMEs. The discussions focused on some of the most important questions facing the sector today: How can organisations work together more effectively? How can field-level challenges be addressed collectively? And how can artisan clusters gain stronger access to markets, new opportunities and international exports? The meeting explored possibilities for joint outreach initiatives, stronger institutional collaboration, market access and export promotion, reinforcing the idea that meaningful change in the craft sector requires a connected ecosystem.

A particularly proud moment was the felicitation of 50 IICD students who completed the Crafts Learning and Hands-on Program at Kunda Crafts Village. Their experience represents an important part of IICD's educational philosophy: understanding craft not merely as an object or technique, but as a living practice rooted in people, place, knowledge and community. The initiative also highlights IICD's commitment to creating meaningful connections between education, craft practice and the wider ecosystem. By bringing students into direct engagement with craftspeople and communities, such programmes encourage a deeper understanding of the realities, challenges and possibilities within the craft sector.

These experiences equip future designers not only with practical knowledge, but also with the sensitivity to work responsibly with traditional knowledge and contribute to its continued relevance in contemporary contexts.

Strengthening Braj's Craft Heritage Through Collaboration

27 May 2026 | Vrindavan



Shri Chanchalapati Das & Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta with members of VHT & IICD.

Preserving tradition while creating possibilities for the future, IICD Jaipur has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Hare Krishna Movement - Vrindavan Heritage Tower Project, opening up new possibilities for research, education and preservation of the rich craft traditions of the Braj region. The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta, Director, IICD and Shri Chanchalapati Das, Vice Chairman and Co-Mentor of the Vrindavan Heritage Tower Project. The partnership brings together expertise in design, heritage conservation and community development, with a shared focus on strengthening Braj's cultural and craft ecosystem.

The collaboration will focus on strengthening and promoting the traditional crafts of the Braj region through documentation, research, artisan capacity building and skill enhancement. Key initiatives will include establishing a Centre for Excellence for Braj Crafts, developing a craft museum and heritage interpretation initiatives, and creating opportunities for craft-based education, innovation and entrepreneurship.

At its heart, the partnership is about more than preserving the past. It is about creating conditions in which traditional knowledge can continue to evolve, remain relevant and support sustainable livelihoods. For IICD, this collaboration further strengthens the connection between craft practice, academic research and community development.



Shri Chanchalapati Das & Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta.

Connecting Classrooms, Craft Communities and New Possibilities: IICD × Jaipur Rugs Foundation

6 May 2026 | Jaipur Rugs, Jaipur



Mr. Nand Kishore Chaudhary - Founder - Jaipur Rugs & Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta - Director - IICD.

The Indian Institute of Crafts & Design (IICD), Jaipur, and the Jaipur Rugs Foundation have entered into a new partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), opening up avenues for joint work in skill development, research and product innovation in the craft sector. The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta, Director, IICD, and Mr. Nand Kishore Chaudhary (NKC), Director, Jaipur Rugs, reflecting a shared interest in connecting design education with the wider craft ecosystem.

The partnership will facilitate workshops, internships, research projects, skill development programmes, product innovation and co-created design initiatives. These activities will give IICD students an opportunity to work closely with craftspeople, understand their techniques and processes, and experience the realities of working within craft communities.

An important aspect of the partnership is the opportunity for interaction between students and artisans. Rather than approaching craft only as a subject of study, students will be able to learn directly from practitioners and explore how traditional skills can inform contemporary design. Artisans, in turn, will have opportunities to engage with students and designers through experimentation and new product development.

The initiative also creates scope for documenting craft practices and exploring new ways of working with materials, techniques and traditional knowledge. Through such engagements, IICD aims to encourage students to develop a more grounded understanding of craft and the communities behind it.

The partnership marks a step towards creating sustained engagement between the institute and the craft sector, with a focus on learning, experimentation and opportunities that can contribute to the continued growth of artisan communities and craft-based design.

IICD Signs MoU with ENSAAMA, Paris

April 2026 | Paris, France

The Indian Institute of Crafts and Design (IICD), Jaipur, has officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Appliqués et des Métiers d'Art (ENSAAMA), Paris. This strategic partnership links one of India's premier craft institutions with a leading French institute renowned for excellence in applied arts and modern craftsmanship.

The collaboration will create dynamic opportunities for student and faculty exchange programs, joint academic initiatives, and international research projects. Through this alliance, IICD continues to advance its vision of seamlessly connecting traditional Indian craft heritage with contemporary global design practices.

IICD Craft Design Awards 2026 Nominations Invited

6 April 2026 | Jaipur

The Indian Institute of Crafts & Design (IICD), Jaipur, launched the IICD Craft Design Awards 2026 on 6 April 2026, inviting nominations to recognise excellence and meaningful contributions to India's craft sector. The awards aim to celebrate individuals and organisations whose work is helping strengthen, preserve and advance the country's diverse craft traditions.

The call was open to organisations working for the promotion of crafts, individual craftspersons, designers, craft-based entrepreneurs and academicians from across the country. Through the awards, IICD seeks to highlight innovative practices, sustained contributions and impactful work that connects traditional craft knowledge with contemporary design and creates new possibilities for the sector.

Crafts Business Accelerator Program 2026: Mid Immersion at IIM, Udaipur

7 - 9 May 2026 | Udaipur

The mid-immersion of the Crafts Business Accelerator Program (CBAP) 2026 was organised at IIM Udaipur from 7–9 May 2026. The three-day programme focused on strengthening participants' understanding of digital marketing, go-to-market strategies, creative supply chains, customer engagement, and business storytelling.

The immersion featured sessions by Ms. Yosha Gupta (Me Meraki) on Digital Marketing; Mr. Nitin Pamnani (iTokri.com) on Go-to-Market Strategy; Mr. Sujay S. Zwende and Ms. Innu Nevatia (Zwende Technologies Pvt. Ltd.) on creative supply chains and customer stories; and Mr. Abhyudaya Goyal (IIMU Incubation Centre) on Business Storytelling.



Mr. Dharmendra Bana with participants at IIM, Udaipur.

Samanvay 2026: Bringing Cultural Enterprise to the Fore

20 - 21 June 2026 | Bengaluru

The Network of Indian Cultural Enterprises (NICE), an ecosystem partner of IICD, hosted the third edition of Samanvay, its cultural entrepreneurship summit, on 20–21 June 2026 at the Bangalore International Centre, Bengaluru. Since its launch in 2024, Samanvay has created a space for cultural entrepreneurs, artisans, designers, mentors, investors and policymakers to meet, share experiences and explore new possibilities for the sector.

This year's theme, "Pehchaan" (Identity as a Strategy), encouraged participants to reflect on their own journeys, the identities of their brands and the direction in which they want to grow. The programme featured masterclasses on marketing, branding and investment, along with conversations with founders from Jaipur Rugs, Akshayakalpa and Araku Coffee. Investor Ravindra Krishnappa also offered practical insights into fundraising and what craft-based businesses should consider when approaching investors.

The IICD Crafts Business Accelerator Programme 2026 cohort was part of the summit through a dedicated exhibition space, where participating brands presented their work and interacted with industry professionals. Ms. Rashmi Pareek, Chief Manager, Project and Incubation, and Mr. Dharmendra Bana, In-charge, Incubation, accompanied the cohort throughout the event.

For the participating entrepreneurs, Samanvay 2026 offered an opportunity to learn from established businesses, engage with industry professionals and gain a clearer perspective on the next stage of their brands. The two-day summit also highlighted the importance of creating stronger connections between craft, design, entrepreneurship and the wider cultural economy.



IICD participants at Samanvay 2026.

IICD partners with DC Code Education to bring design learning and career resources to students

29 May 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

IICD has entered into a collaborative programme with DC Code Education Pvt. Ltd., providing students with free access to a range of online learning, design resources and career support. IICD has paid for these resources and thus they are free for the students of IICD.

The Explorer Plan gives students access to:

- 2 Industry-Relevant Courses to build practical and contemporary design skills.
- 1 Expert Masterclass offering insights from industry professionals.
- 500+ Creative Resource Tools to support design projects and experimentation.
- Myth Buster Monday (MBM) sessions focused on challenging common assumptions and encouraging critical thinking.
- 1 Career Drive providing exposure to industry and employment opportunities.
- Opinion Polls designed to encourage engagement and gather student perspectives.
- Design Buzz featuring curated updates and developments from the world of design.

The initiative extends learning beyond the studio and classroom, giving students access to resources that can support both their creative practice and professional journey. By combining learning opportunities with industry exposure and career assistance, the collaboration aims to help students stay informed, build relevant skills and navigate the evolving design landscape with greater confidence.

The collaboration also creates opportunities for students to engage with emerging ideas, industry practices and diverse perspectives beyond the conventional academic curriculum. By encouraging continuous learning and exploration, the initiative supports students in developing a more informed and adaptable approach to design—one that responds to changing technologies, industry needs and evolving creative practices.

Through this partnership, IICD continues to strengthen its commitment to accessible, industry-oriented learning. The programme complements classroom and studio education by giving students additional avenues to experiment, upskill and connect their academic learning with real-world opportunities, helping them build greater confidence as they prepare for careers in the creative and design industries.



IICD Students & Faculty attending the DC Code Education workshop.



Prof. Neeraj Gupta & Mr. Anil Bose at the IICD x DC Code Education event.

IICD faculty member presents research at IFFTI 2026

16 April 2026 | Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



Dr. Abhishek Choudhary at IFFTI.



Dr. Abhishek Choudhary, Assistant Professor of Fashion & Clothing at IICD, presented his research at the 28th Annual Conference of the International Foundation of Fashion Technology Institutes (IFFTI), hosted by RMIT University Vietnam, from 13 - 17 April 2026.

The conference explored the theme "Cultural Connections for Sustainable Fashion Futures: Rebuild, Renew, Regenerate." Dr. Choudhary presented his paper, "Consumer Preferences and Sustainable Consumption in the Apparel Industry: A Study on Collaborative and Regenerative Design Approaches," during the morning paper session on 16 April 2026. The research contributes to the growing conversation around sustainable fashion by examining how consumer behaviour, collaboration and regenerative approaches can influence the future of the apparel industry.

IICD Faculty Represents Rajasthan at National Painters Camp 2026, Gulmarg

21 - 25 April 2026 | Jammu & Kashmir

IICD Jaipur faculty member Mr. Shuvankar Biswas represented Rajasthan at the National Painters' Camp 2026, held from 21-25 April in Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir. Organised by the North Zone Cultural Centre and Lalit Kala Akademi, J&K, the camp brought together 20 artists from across India around the theme "Vision Bharat @ 2047." Set against the landscapes of Kashmir, the camp provided a platform for artists to explore India's future through painting, while encouraging dialogue and exchange across diverse artistic practices. Mr. Biswas's participation marks a significant recognition of his artistic practice at the national level.



Mr. Shuvankar Biswas with his painting at NPC, 2026.

Landscape Painting Activity at OTS Marks Civil Services Day Celebration

22 April 2026 | OTS Campus

The students of IICD's certificate programme in painting were invited for an on-site landscape painting activity at the OTS campus, held in conjunction with the Civil Services Day celebrations.

The activity resulted in six landscape paintings, capturing different views and interpretations of the OTS campus. The participants included Devika, Yashasvi, Somya, Monika, Shreya, and Mr Shuvankar Biswas, Faculty, IICD.

Working directly from the campus environment allowed participants to translate observation into visual expression, applying their painting skills in a real-world setting rather than a controlled studio exercise. The activity encouraged them to engage with light, space, perspective, composition and atmosphere while developing their individual approaches to landscape painting.



IICD students at the Civil Services Day celebration.

IICD Students Exhibit Artworks at "Happiness in Life" Exhibition, University of Rajasthan

9 May 2026 | Univeristy of Rajasthan, Jaipur



IICD students at the Happiness in Life exhibition.

Six students from the Indian Institute of Crafts & Design (IICD), Jaipur, participated in a painting competition themed "Happiness in Life" organised by the University of Rajasthan.

An exhibition showcasing the competition entries was subsequently held, featuring the participating students individual artistic interpretations of the theme.

IICD Participants: Monika, Devika, Shreya, Somya, Yashasvi, and Reena

The participation reflects IICD students' continued engagement with creative expression and interdisciplinary artistic platforms beyond the classroom

IICD Director's Official Visit to Paris Strengthens International Collaborations

7 - 15 April 2026 | Paris, France



Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta at ESMOD, Paris.



Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta, Director, Indian Institute of Crafts & Design (IICD), Jaipur, visited Paris from 7-15 April 2026 as part of IICD's continued efforts to strengthen international academic and cultural partnerships. The visit focused on exploring new avenues of collaboration across art, craft, design, fashion and cultural heritage, while creating opportunities for academic exchange, knowledge sharing and greater international exposure for IICD students, faculty, alumni and craft practitioners.

As part of the visit, Prof. (Dr.) Gupta engaged with several leading French institutions, including ESMOD, L'École de Design Nantes Atlantique, ENSAAMA and ENSAD. Discussions explored a range of potential and ongoing collaborations, including renewal of existing MoUs, student and faculty exchanges, dual-degree and preparatory programmes, Erasmus+ opportunities, and the integration of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence into design education. These engagements provided an opportunity to identify areas of mutual academic interest and explore ways to strengthen long-term institutional partnerships.

The visit also extended beyond academic institutions to include cultural and professional organisations such as Musée Guimet, la Galerie du 19M, Institut Français de la Mode, Alliance Française and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre. Conversations explored possibilities for exhibitions, workshops, residencies, incubation initiatives and international market opportunities for IICD alumni and craftspeople. Such engagements are particularly significant in creating platforms where Indian craft knowledge and contemporary design practices can engage with international audiences and institutions.

Session on Higher Education Opportunities in France Held at IICD

10 April 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

A session on “Higher Education Opportunities in France” was held in the Conference Hall, conducted by Ms. Shagun from Campus France. The session provided attendees with valuable insights into higher education pathways and opportunities available to students in France. The talk was well received by those present, who found it informative and engaging in exploring international academic opportunities. The session also encouraged students to consider France as a potential destination for further studies, research and creative practice. With its strong ecosystem of art, design and cultural institutions, the session offered a valuable perspective on international education and the possibilities it can open for aspiring designers and creative practitioners.



Students attending the workshop at IICD.

International Conference on “Textiles and Clothing of the Himalayan Region”

April 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

THE ORGANIZERS

TEXTILES & CLOTHING RESEARCH CENTRE

Graphic Era Hill University

संस्कृत विश्वविद्यालय

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

30 APRIL 2026

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS

Textiles & Clothing of the Himalayan Region
Material Traditions, Technologies, and Sustainable Futures

23-24 October 2026
DEHRADUN

Textiles and Clothing of the Himalayan Region

The Textile and Clothing Research Centre (TCRC), in collaboration with Graphic Era Hill University, Dehradun, and with the support of IICD, Jaipur, will organise a two-day International Conference on “Textiles and Clothing of the Himalayan Region” on 23–24 October 2026.

The conference will bring together scholars, researchers, practitioners and industry professionals to examine the region’s textile and clothing practices, with discussions around heritage, materials, community knowledge and contemporary contexts. It will encourage interdisciplinary dialogue and provide a space for sharing research and field-based perspectives. Selected papers from the conference will be published in a special issue of the Taylor & Francis Journal TEXTILE: Cloth and Culture.

Varta Session: "The Burmandising Impact" - Sound of Leadership

8 May 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

IICD hosted a special session, "The Burmandising Impact," by Mr. Anuraag author, visual merchandiser, brand and communication designer, customer experience designer and musician. Inspired by RD Burman's music, the session explored his unique design-thinking framework connecting music with leadership and problem-solving. Titled "Sound of Leadership," the 2.5-hour session combined innovation, leadership and visual merchandising through a musical journey. Participants explored 15 leadership lessons, creative approaches to business challenges, practical visual merchandising insights and real-life case studies, encouraging fresh perspectives and innovative thinking.



Mr. Anuraag at IICD 's Burmandising impact session.

SMD Print Design ITP Work Display by Semester 4

29 May 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

The 4th-semester students presented their ITP work as part of a display focused on Print Design and Hand Block Printing. The project introduced students to the complete process of hand block printing, from developing the print to applying it on finished products. Students explored a range of product categories, including apparel, kidswear, dining sets, home décor, bedsheets and other lifestyle products. The display reflected the students' efforts to understand the possibilities of traditional printing techniques within contemporary product design. Through their work, they explored how colour, pattern, placement and surface could be adapted across different materials and products while retaining the character of hand block printing.



Prof. (Dr.) Toolika Gupta interacting with a student.



Display done by students.



Display done by students.

Exploring the Principles of Design Through 3D Structures

6 April 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

A display of student work was held at the Quadrangle, IICD, showcasing the outcomes of a three-week exploration of the Principles of Design by the Foundation Semester 2 Batch (2025–2029). The course was conducted by Mr. Basu Vansit and Ms. Susmita Dutta and introduced students to design concepts through hands-on making and experimentation.

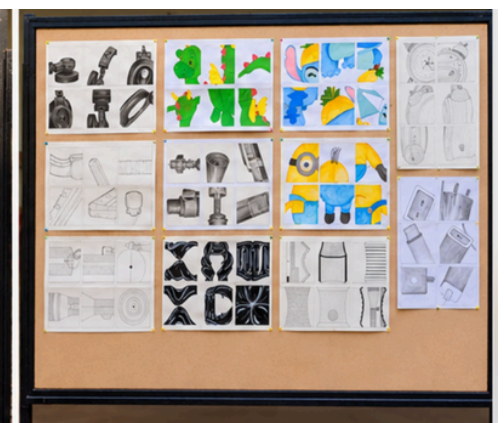
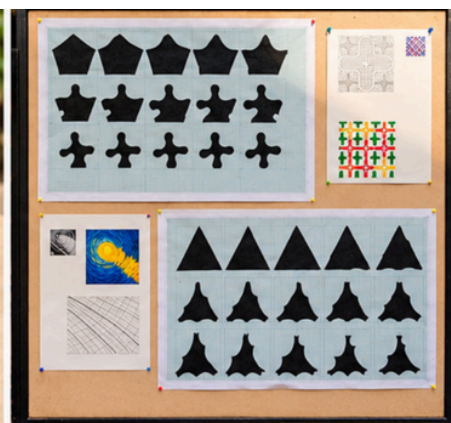
As part of the course, students worked with a range of materials including paper, metal, thread, wire, thermocol and POP. They experimented with construction, joining, bending, layering and other methods of manipulating materials to understand how design principles can be expressed through physical form. Moving between two-dimensional studies and three-dimensional structures, students explored ideas of balance, rhythm, proportion, movement, repetition and composition.

The process encouraged students to observe closely, test their ideas and learn through making. Rather than focusing only on the final outcome, the exercises helped them understand how a simple idea can develop through experimentation with material, scale and form. The resulting works reflected different approaches to structure and composition, giving students an opportunity to present their ideas in a tangible form.

The display brought together the diverse outcomes of the course and offered a glimpse into the students' early design explorations. It also highlighted the importance of material understanding and hand skills in developing imagination and conceptual thinking during the Foundation year.



Semester 2 students with Faculty.



Student's Work exploring shapes and forms.

B.Des. Students Explore Craft Traditions in Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh

30 March - 6 April 2026 | Punjab & H.P.

As part of their academic learning, the B.Des. 3rd Semester students undertook a craft visit to Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh from 30 March to 6 April 2026. The visit gave students an opportunity to encounter local craft traditions first-hand and observe the people, materials and techniques involved in their making. Through on-site sketching and documentation, they recorded details of the processes and developed a closer understanding of how these crafts are made and practiced.

The visit also included a stop at the Hidimba Temple in Manali, where students spent time sketching the temple's distinctive traditional architecture and observing its surroundings.

By engaging directly with crafts and places of cultural significance, the visit encouraged students to look closely, document what they observed and understand craft within its larger cultural setting. The experience added a practical dimension to their classroom learning and helped strengthen their skills in visual observation and documentation.



IICD Students documenting Phukari craft with artisans.



IICD Students at Hidimba Devi Temple.

SAC Activities: Marking Important Days Through Student Engagement

April- May -June 2026 | IICD, Jaipur

During April, May and June, IICD students came together to mark a series of important occasions, including Ambedkar Jayanti on 14 April, World Design Day on 27 April and World Environment Day on 5 June. Each occasion offered a chance to engage with ideas that extend beyond the classroom from social justice and design to environmental responsibility. Through discussions, creative activities and collective participation, students explored these themes in their own ways while contributing to a lively sense of community on campus.



Students & Faculty at IICD.



भारतीय शिल्प संस्थान
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF
CRAFTS & DESIGN

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

This edition of the IICD Newsletter brings together a period of learning, exchange and new beginnings across the Institute. From celebrating our graduating students and connecting them with industry through the Annual Placement Drive, to developing new partnerships with craft communities, organisations and academic institutions, the past few months have been marked by active engagement both within and beyond the campus.

Students and faculty have continued to explore craft, research, art and contemporary design through a range of academic and professional engagements. Field-based learning, participation in exhibitions and national platforms, faculty research, international academic opportunities and new institutional collaborations have opened up different ways of learning and working. These experiences have allowed our students to encounter ideas, materials, communities and practices beyond the conventional classroom setting.

Craft remains central to this journey. At IICD, it is approached not only as a part of our cultural heritage, but as a living practice that continues to respond to changing contexts, materials, technologies and communities. The work featured in this edition reflects this approach, bringing together different perspectives on making, research, education and design.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to creating opportunities for our students and faculty to learn through experience, engage with diverse practices and build meaningful connections across disciplines. We hope this edition offers a glimpse into the people, projects and conversations that have shaped the IICD community over the past few months.

Warm regards,
Editorial Team
(Fashion & Clothing Design Dept.)