



राष्ट्रीय फैशन प्रौद्योगिकी
संस्थान, चेन्नै
National Institute of Fashion
Technology, Chennai
Ministry of Textiles, Government of India



युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS
सत्यमेव जयते



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026

DESIGNING THE FUTURE

CREATIVITY, INCLUSION AND
TECHNOLOGY IN YOUTH INNOVATION

25 – 27 March 2026 | NIFT Chennai | India

EVENT SCHEDULE

- Future Fashion, Living Systems & Sensory Materiality
- Fashion Intelligent Technologies, Hybrid Craft & Digital Futures
- Social Imagination, Inclusion, & Ethical Design Innovation

Details of parallel sessions

POSTER PRESENTATION (26.03.2026)

Venue: Room No: 02 (Ground Floor)
Time: 10.30 am to 05.30 pm

INSTALLATION & DECOR - All 3 Days

Venue: Outer Courtyard
Time: Throughout

CRAFT: DEMOS & EXHIBIT (25.03.26 & 26.03.26)

Venue: Auditorium Foyer (Ground Floor)
Time: 11.00 am to 6.00 pm (till 4 pm on 26.03.2026)

CULTURAL EVENING (25.03.26 & 26.03.26)

Venue: Auditorium (Ground Floor)
Time: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm

HERITAGE WALK/TOUR - 26.03.2026 @ 12.00 noon | NIFT Chennai campus ↔ Mahabalipuram

25.03.2026 (Wednesday)

10.00 am to 11.00 am	Registration
11.00 am to 01.00 pm	Conference Orientation & Ice Breaking
01.00 pm to 02.00 pm	Lunch
02.00 pm to 03.00 pm	Campus tour
03.00 pm to 04.00 pm	Inauguration
04.00 pm to 04.30 pm	Tea Break
04.30 pm to 05.30 pm	Main Theme Roundtable discussion
05.30 pm to 06.00 pm	Craft Demonstration & Exhibition
06.00 pm to 07.00 pm	Folk Dance performance
07.00 pm onwards	Networking Dinner

26.03.2026 (Thursday)

10.00 am to 11.00 pm	Keynote Addresses 1 & 2
11.00 am to 11.30 am	Tea Break
11.30 am to 01:00 pm	Keynote Addresses 3, 4 & 5
01.00 pm to 02.00 pm	Lunch
02.00 pm to 06.00 pm	Roundtable discussion and Paper Presentations on Sub-themes (Parallel Tracks)
06.00 pm to 07.00 pm	Cultural Programme
07.00 pm onwards	Networking Dinner

27.03.2026 (Thursday)

10.00 am to 11.00 am	Valedictory Session
11.00 am to 11.15 am	Tea Break
11.30 am onwards	Heritage Tour
5.00 pm onwards	Departure of Delegates

ROUNDTABLE MAIN THEME

Speaker	Industry	Topic	Time
Dr. Adity Saxena	Professor & Dean, School of Arts and Design at Woxsen University	Fostering Inclusive Design Thinking among Young Innovators / The Role of Education in Nurturing Creative and Technological Minds / From Imagination to Innovation: The Future Designed by Youth	04.30 pm to 05.10 pm
Mr. Shammy Jacob	Founder, Klooster Farms, Ex. NIKE Sustainability Head, Chennai	Empowering Youth through Creative Thinking in the Age of Technology / Inclusive Innovation: Ensuring No Young Mind is Left Behind / Youth, Innovation and the Power of Collaborative Creativity	
Mr.M.S.Thirumoolar	CEO-Processing, RK Exports Fabric Processing Pvt. Ltd.	Innovative materials & process for future fashion	
Ms. Dinie van den Heuvel	Creative Director, Infantium Victoria GmbH, Germany	Designing the Future: Creativity, Inclusion and Technology in Shaping Youth Innovation / Youth Innovation in the 21st Century: Integrating Creativity, Technology and Social Responsibility	
Ms. Alessandra Di Palma	Brand Specialist, Paris	Designing Solutions for Global Challenges in Fashion through Youth Innovation / Creative Technologies for Empowering the Next Generation through Fashion Branding	
Question & Answer			5.10 pm to 5.20 pm
Windup			5.20 pm to 5.30 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS			
Speaker	Industry	Topic	Time
Mr. Suman Saha	CXO – Myntra; Director Allen Solly; Heading Myntra FWD, House of Brands	Creative Futures: Empowering the Next Generation through Design, Technology and Inclusive Thinking / Youth as Architects of the Future: Creativity, Inclusion and Digital Transformation	10.00 am to 10.15 am
Ms. Deborah Thiagarajan	Founder & Director, Dakshina Chitra Museum	Design Thinking for the Future: Cultivating Creativity and Inclusive Innovation among Youth through Arts and Crafts / Reimagining Innovation Ecosystems: Youth, Creativity and Inclusivity for Sustainable Futures	10.15 am to 10.30 am
Tea Break			
Mr. Abdul Wahab	Managing Director, KH Group of Companies & Chairman, CLE Southern Region	From Creativity to Impact: Transforming Youth Ideas into Global Innovation / Innovation for Humanity: Designing Inclusive and Sustainable Futures through Youth Creativity	11.00 am to 11.15 am
Dr. Madhan Kumar Srinivasan	Chairman – Wise Works; Professor of Practice – VIT University; CEO – Madhan Institute of Future	Technology, Creativity and the Next Generation: Redefining the Landscape of Youth Innovation / Beyond Technology: Human-Centred Design and the Future of Youth Innovation	11.15 am to 11.30 am
Dr. K. M. Suceendran	Head – Academic Alliances Group, TCS, Chennai	Designing Inclusive Futures: The Role of Creativity and Technology in Youth Empowerment / The Power of Creative Intelligence: Preparing Youth for an Inclusive and Technological Future	11.30 am to 11.45 am
Question & Answer			11.45 am to 12.15 pm
Windup			12.15 pm to 12.30 pm



Sub Theme 1: Future Fashion, Living Systems & Sensory Materiality

Chair: Ms. Alessandra Di Palma, Brand Specialist, Paris

Co-Chair: Dr. K Arul, Associate Professor

Roundtable Session

Speaker	Affiliation	Time
Mr. Akash Kumar	VP-VM, Landmark Group, Bangalore	Room No: 20 (Ground Floor) 2.00 pm to 2.10 pm
Ms. Hemamalini Padmanabhan	Founder, Seven Sarees	Room No: 20 (Ground Floor) 2.10 pm to 2.20 pm

Technical Session

Venue	Author	Paper Title	Time
Room No: 20 (Ground Floor)	Ms. Anja Petrovic	Can Sustainability Exist in an Unsustainable Context? Exploring the Perceived Barriers to Sustainable Fashion Consumption among Generation Z and Generation X Consumers in Serbia	02.20 pm to 02.30 pm
	Ms. Leechita Gopalakrishnan	Extending Fashion Design Intelligence Across the Wardrobe Lifecycle: An AI-Driven Framework for Inclusive and Sustainable Styling	02.30 pm to 02.40 pm
	Ms. Akshita Jain Madan	Regenerative Material Pathways: Circular Design Lessons from Textile Recycling Systems in Australia, USA and Sweden	02.40 pm to 02.50 pm
	Ms. Shilpa Kashyap	A Comparative Study to Evaluate the Effect of Lightweight Scrubs Versus Traditional Uniform Fabrics on Perceived Exhaustion Among Staff Nurses Working at Selected Hospitals of Varanasi	02.50 pm to 03.00 pm
	Dr. Zeal Mehta	The Role of De-centralised Entrepreneurial Skills for Small Scale Brands	03.00 pm to 03.10 pm
	Ms. Linciya J	From Damage to Transformation: Living fabrics for future lifestyle	03.10 pm to 03.20 pm
	Ms. Akanksha	Transforming Agro-Waste into Performance Textiles: Exploring Pigeon Pea Fiber for Sustainable Sportswear for Shoe Linings and Headgear	03.20 pm to 03.30 pm
	Ms. Swetha Jayalakshmi J	Effects of Store Atmosphere on Sales performance in Women's Retail Stores using Stimulus–Organism–Response (S–O–R) Approach	03.30 pm to 03.40 pm



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Technical Session

Venue	Author	Paper Title	Time
Room No: 20 (Ground Floor)	Ms. Poojana A B	Emotive Design: Wearable & Spatial Storytelling	03.40 pm to 03.50 pm
	Mr. Hrishabh Sonu	A Study of Conductive Ink-Based Grounding Sheets as an Alternative to Woven Conductive Textiles	03.50 pm to 04.00 pm
	Mr. Jaison Rakesh	Reimagining Mass-Distributed Marathon Apparel Through Bio-Based, Single-Use Performance Textiles	04.00 pm to 04.10 pm
	Ms. Felnunmoi Gangte	The Thül as a Design Artefact Shaping Emotional Experience in Contemporary Mizo Living	04.10 pm to 04.20 pm
	Ms. Amrita Singh	Sustainable Fashion & Lifestyle Accessories	04.20 pm to 04.30 pm
	Ms. Raja Balasaraswathi S	Biophilic Design as a strategy for Sustainable and Ethical Fashion	04.30 pm to 04.40 pm
	Ms. Mamatha G P K	Experiencing Art and Nature: Perspectives on Textile Engineering and Fashion Curation	04.40 pm to 04.50 pm
	Ms. Biniya Arul Jothi	Understanding Smart Clothing Design Needs of Gen Z in India using the Functional Expressive Aesthetic (FEA) Framework	04.50 pm to 05.00 pm
	Ms. Heer Modi	Reimagine Wool - An Acoustic Solution	05.00 pm to 05.10 pm
	Ms. Rhiya Oberoi	Investigative study to understand if Kala Cotton has been adopted by the home textile segment as much as it is popular in apparel fashion.	05.10 pm to 05.20 pm
	Ms. Ananya Rao B	From Household Waste to Design Material: Exploring Coconut Shell and Tannic Acid in Sustainable Craft and Jewellery Practices	05.20 pm to 05.30 pm
	Ms. Jeeva Shree Karunanithi	Regenerative Futures: Circular Aesthetics in Fabrics, Fashion & Built Environments	05.30 pm to 05.40 pm
	Ms. Punya Chauhan	Beyond Inputs: Rethinking Material Awareness in Structured Fashion Production	05.40 pm to 05.50 pm
Ms. Thanusha Srinivasan	Decolonising Fashion Ethics: Social media as a Site of Cultural Accountability and Design Responsibility	05.50 pm to 06.00 pm	

Sub Theme 2: Fashion Intelligent Technologies, Hybrid Craft & Digital Futures

Chair: Dr. Madhan Kumar Srinivasan, Chairman, Wiseworks Co-Chair: Dr. Kishore Kumar, Assistant Professor

Roundtable Session

Speaker	Affiliation	Time
Mr. Gokul Rajasekaran	Founder & CEO, Camo Mobility Private Limited, Chennai	Room No: 17 (Ground Floor) 2.00 pm to 2.10 pm
Mr. Rahul Pandey	Design Head, Wildcraft Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore (Operating from New Delhi)	Room No: 17 (Ground Floor) 2.10 pm to 2.20 pm

Technical Session

Venue	Author	Paper Title	Time
Room No: 17 (Ground Floor)	Ms. Anvi Bhatnagar	In Change: Textile Making as a Living System of Embodied Experience	02.20 pm to 02.30 pm
	Mr. Gunalan Venkatesan	Artisan Studio: Voice-First Digital Platform for Preserving Silk Craft Heritage through Inclusive and Ethical Design Innovation	02.30 pm to 02.40 pm
	Ms. Amirthavarshini M	Regenerative Futures: Circular Aesthetics in Fabrics, Fashion & Built Environments – Regeneration across clothing, interiors, and materials.	02.40 pm to 02.50 pm
	Ms. Uthra S Ganesh	Tactile Landscapes: A Design led exploration of Interior Textiles using 3D printing	02.50 pm to 03.00 pm
	Ms. Anneasa Manna	Nano to Neural: Biomimetic Thermo-Responsive Camouflage Textiles for Intelligent Environmental Illusion	03.00 pm to 03.10 pm
	Ms. Aayushi Jaiswal	Co-Creating with Machines: A Framework for Responsible AI Integration in Design Practice	03.10 pm to 03.20 pm
	Ms. K K Gayathri	Analysing Visual-First XR Exhibition Design through Distal Attribution and proposing a Multisensory Conceptual Framework	03.20 pm to 03.30 pm



Sub Theme 3: Social Imagination, Inclusion, & Ethical Design Innovation

Chair: Mrs.L.V.Jayashree, Director, SPASTN

Co-Chair: Dr. Kaustav Sen Gupta, Associate Professor

Roundtable Session

Speaker	Affiliation	Time
Mr. Pradeep Kannan	Founder, The Falooda Shop	Room No: 19 (Ground Floor) 2.00 pm to 2.10 pm
Mr. Naushad Ali	Owner-Designer, Naushad Ali Design Studio, Auroville, Pondicherry	Room No: 19 (Ground Floor) 2.10 pm to 2.20 pm

Technical Session

Venue	Author	Paper Title	Time
Room No: 19 (Ground Floor)	Ms. Amritha Christy	Core Radiance by Sephora: Designing a Dual-Format Beauty–Wellness Product Through Strategic Licensing	02.20 pm to 02.30 pm
	Ms. Nilmini Bhagya	Designing from the Margins: Youth Artisan-Led Traditional Costume Design Practice	02.30 pm to 02.40 pm
	Ms. Lalitha Alwan	Collective Imagination in Indian Craft Ecosystems	02.40 pm to 02.50 pm
	Ms. Mahalakshmi Subramanian	Bio-Based Functional Textiles for Circular Fashion and Living Systems	02.50 pm to 03.00 pm
	Mr. Manish Joshi	Mapping Public Opinion on Urban Cleanliness and Civic Engagement in Urban India for guiding Design-Centric Solutions	03.00 pm to 03.10 pm
	Ms. Aliya Raooof	Piezoelectric Sensing Technology in Wearable Textiles	03.10 pm to 03.20 pm
	Ms. Ria Jeej	Thermal Comfort and Youth Wellbeing: A User-Centric Evaluation of Heat-Based Menstrual Care for Primary Dysmenorrhea	03.20 pm to 03.30 pm



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Technical Session

Venue	Author	Paper Title	Time
Room No: 19 (Ground Floor)	Ms. Subhasmita Brahma	The Role of Empathy in Designing Cohesive Cognitive Learning Spaces	03.30 pm to 03.40 pm
	Mr. Yogesh	Designing Belonging in Informal Thrift Ecosystems: A Systems Study of Sarojini Nagar Market, New Delhi	03.40 pm to 03.50 pm
	Mr. Devesh Mishra	The Yardstick of Design understanding and its interpretation by the Durrie Weavers of the Raipur Rani Cluster: A Case Study	03.50 pm to 04.00 pm
	Ms. Akshaya Manoj M P	Reimagining Fashion Retail through Experiential Customisation: An Ethical and Inclusive Design Approach	04.00 pm to 04.10 pm
	Ms. Hemangi Chaturvedi	Designing for the Elderly: Integrating Cognitive Ergonomics and Universal Design to Enhance Autonomy in an Aging Population	04.10 pm to 04.20 pm
	Ms. Vayuna Pandey	Move Out and Play! Designing Games to Stimulate Movement and Engagement in Students	04.20 pm to 04.30 pm
	Ms. Worsochon Kasar	Rooted Tradition and Sustainable Weave Practices of The Tangkhul Tribe of Manipur	04.30 pm to 04.40 pm

Poster presentation (26.03.2026, 10.30 am to 05.30 pm, Room No: 02) **Sub Theme 1: Future Fashion, Living Systems & Sensory Materiality**

Author	Paper Title
Mr. Harish P	Living Intelligence: When Responsive Fashion Meets Smart Technology
Ms. Maitreyee Datar	Reframing Textile Recycling at the Fabric Level: A Craft-Led Perspective on Heterogeneous Textile Waste
Ms. Mohini Mahajan	Transforming Knitwear Textile Industry Waste into Sustainable Textile Products- A Circular Economy Approach
Ms. Yashini N	Regenerative Future: Circular Aesthetics in Fabrics, Fashion & built Environments
Ms. Sakthi Sree B	3D Printing: A Regenerative Approach to Fashion Embellishment through Biodegradable Button Systems
Ms. Sri Mathi A R	Designing with Living Materials for a Circular and Sensory Future

 **Sub Theme 2: Fashion Intelligent Technologies, Hybrid Craft & Digital Futures**

Author	Paper Title
Mr. Mohammed Saqib Khan	The Creative Algorithm: Human – AI Co-Creation in Data-Driven Fashion Design

Poster presentation (26.03.2026, 10.30 am to 05.30 pm, Room No: 02)

Sub Theme 3: Social Imagination, Inclusion, & Ethical Design Innovation

Author	Paper Title
Ms. Anshu Kumari	Designing Responsible Fashion Futures Ethical Design Innovation and Circular Practices against Fast Fashion
Ms. Zoya Charania	Overlooked Wallets: Financial Literacy and the Economic Empowerment of Women in Mumbai's Domestic Workforce
Ms. Osho Jain	Designing Cultural Accountability: REFRAME as a Systemic Intervention for Transgender Inclusion in Indian Cinema
Ms. Ann Treasa Joseph	Last Bus Home: A Phenomenological Study of Gamified Social Bonding in First year students'
Ms. Anu Singh	Designing Belonging — Inclusive Fashion, Sustainable Innovation and Cultural Heritage in Contemporary Design
Ms. Anshi Singh	Rethinking the Front Row: Ergonomic and Inclusive Strategies for Cinema Seating Design
Ms. Akshara Karthi	Designing Makerspaces as Learning Ecosystems: Integrating Craft, Technology and Youth Innovation In India
Ms. Vidhi Bhabra	Designing Sensory Inclusion in Intelligent Public Systems: Extending Universal Design for AI-Mediated Environments in India
Ms. Shreya Dighe	Dressing to Communicate: The Role of Cross-Dressing in Identity and Self-Expression
Ms. Deepa Borawar	Rehabilitation of Slum Artisans through Livelihood and Cultural Continuity: A Case of Kathputli Nagar, Jaipur
Ms. Ureka R	Fashion, Lifestyle Choices and Social Status in Urban Chennai: An Analysis through Veblen's Theory of Conspicuous Consumption



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