



# iift NEWSLETTER



JANUARY-MARCH 2024

## Division of Alumni Affairs

### Netritva, 2024

The Alumni Relations Committee hosted Netritva on 11 February 2024 at the IIFT Delhi Campus.



It was an engaging talk show on “Unmasking the Human Leader” exploring the human side of leadership with three distinguished alumni- Mr. Sanjay Gopinath, Head of Marketing & Communications at MathWorks India; Mr. Amitabh Shergill Head of Operations North at Delhivery and Ms. Neha Markanda, Head of Industry, E-Commerce at Google India. The show was hosted by Mr. Nitin Mohan Kapoor, Associate Manager at Michael Page.

The talk centered around how being a human leader is about more than having all the answers. It's about embracing vulnerabilities, learning from mentors, and constantly adapting to the changing world around us. Our guests shared how they balance their personal lives, with myriad work commitments, and their hobbies and

passions that inform their worldview and perspective to business and work and thoughts on success. Netritva '24 also witnessed the launch of Aluminati: The Netritva Special Edition and the announcement of the opening of the applications for Alumni of the Year Awards.

### Live Project

The Alumni Relations Committee at IIFT is actively working to bring live projects to students by partnering with corporate entities and our alumni, offering practical learning experiences that enrich their academic journey. Among these collaborations is PDS International Pvt Ltd, led by Mr. Manu Chopra, an esteemed alumnus of IIFT. PDS has extended support by opening two significant roles for our students: one in Merger and Acquisitions and another in Sales. These roles serve as invaluable platforms for students to gain practical insights and hands-on experience in key business domains. We look forward to more partnerships and chances that will enhance our students' overall learning, showcasing the strong connection between our alumni in helping shape the future leaders of the business world.

### CORE@Bengaluru

The fourth edition of the CORE convergence meet was concluded on 16 February 2024, at the National Institute of Fashion Technology, Bengaluru. It marked a significant milestone in



the ongoing initiative aimed at fostering convergence among five prestigious institutes under the Ministry of Textiles and Commerce & Industry.

### **Canada Alumni Meet, 2024**

The annual Canada Alumni Meet was held on 24 February 2024 at the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The event saw participation from alumni across different batches over the last three decades. It was a delightful experience, filled with cherished memories, enjoyable activities, delicious food, and many joyful moments. The event was all about reconnecting and making new bonds among alumni. It was a wonderful day filled with warmth and laughter, showing the strong connections among alumni from different times.



### **Mumbai Alumni Lunch, 2024**

The Mumbai IIFT alumni got together for a special lunch at Rude Lounge in Powai on 10 March 2024. It was a delightful reunion where old friends gathered, laughed, and exchanged



stories about their days at IIFT. Alumni with various backgrounds shared stories of their career paths, cheering on each other's achievements. The atmosphere was filled with happiness as they reminisced about their fun times spent studying together. This get-together was a beautiful reminder of the strong bonds they formed during their time at IIFT, bonds that continue to bring them joy.

### **Road to Summers (Jan.-Mar.)**

The Alumni Relations Committee at IIFT orchestrated the "Road to Summers" programme for the 2023-2025 batch. This mentorship initiative is designed to offer invaluable guidance to first-year students embarking on their summer internship journeys.

We take pride in the participation of a host of distinguished alumni who generously imparted their expertise and experiences to the students. Engaging in one-on-one interactions, these alumni furnished insights across various business functions, aiding students in gaining a more profound comprehension of the corporate landscape.

Some of the prominent alumni who contributed their time and expertise to the "Road to Summers" initiative till now include:

- Pranav Handoo (Dabur)
- Manav Modi (D.E. Shaw)
- Kritin Kapoor (Deloitte)

- Anjela Prakash (Maersk)
- Ishaan Jain (ICICI Bank)
- Ankita Bagri (World Bank Group)
- Siddhi Vinayak (IDFC First)
- Vidhit Patni (JP Morgan Chase & Co)
- Ritu Sinha (Wipro)
- Priyank Jain (Samsung)
- Shalini Pathak (Microsoft)

The sessions proved to be not only informative but also highly engaging, fostering significant connections between the alumni and current students. This provided a platform for alumni to reconnect with their alma mater, while students received mentorship on progressing with their internships, enriched by the alumni's firsthand experiences with their respective companies.

## Publications by IIFT Faculty

**Dr. P.K. Das**, Professor

- Das, Pijush Kanti and Das, Prabir Kumar (2024), Forecasting and Analyzing Predictors of Inflation Rate: Using Machine Learning Approach, *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, pp. 1-25, Published on 29 February.

**Dr. V. Raveendra Saradhi**, Professor and Head, IIFT Kakinada Campus

- Aggarwal, K. and Saradhi, V.R. (2024), A Study on the Co-Movement and Influencing Factors of Stock Markets between India and the other Asia-Pacific countries, *International Journal of Emerging Markets*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJOEM-06-2023-0965>

**Sujata Kar**, Associate Professor

- Bashir, Z. and Kar S. (2024), Synthesizing the Relationship between Political Instability, Consumer Confidence, and Households' Financial Behaviour: An Interdisciplinary Review and Future Research Agenda, *European Economic Letters*, 14 (1), pp. 1258-1287. <https://www.eelet.org.uk/index.php/journal/article/view/1176/1016>
- Moolchandani, R. and Kar, S. (2023), Impact of Board Attributes on Corporate Cash

Holdings: Evidence from India, *International Journal of Managerial & Financial Accounting*. Accepted on 27 November.

**Dr. C. Ganeshkumar**, Associate Professor

- Ganeshkumar, C. Yuvaraj, M., Jothi Basu, R., and Arokiaraj, D. (2024), Will Artificial Intelligence be a Performance Booster to Agritech Start-up?: Empirical Evidence from Emerging Economy, *Journal of Industrial Integration and Management: Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, Vol Issue: 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1142/S2424862224500015>

**Dr. Oindrila Day**, Assistant Professor

- Dey, O. and Kumari, G. (2024), Can Redistribution of Vaccine Improve Global Welfare? Lessons from COVID-19, *European Journal of Health Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-023-01665-9>. (ABDC-A)

**Dr. Anju Goswami**, Assistant Professor

- Goswami, A. and Malik, P. (2024), Risks and financial performance of Indian banks: a cursory look at the COVID-19 period, *Benchmarking: an International Journal*, Vol. 31 (C), pp. 1-28.



## Management Development Programmes

During the period from January to March 2024, the MDP Division has conducted a total of 9 programmes for the Officers/Executives of various levels. Out of these, 2 were open programmes and 7 were sponsored programmes. A total of 260 participants benefited from these programmes.

During January-March 2024, the following significant programmes/activities were conducted by MDP Division.

- **11-Months Post Graduate Certificate Programme in International Business & Finance (Batch-6) – Hybrid (24 July 2023 – June 2024)**

MDP Division organized an inauguration ceremony for the 11-Month Post Graduate Certificate Programme in International Business & Finance. The programme welcomed participants from diverse sectors, including government organizations, corporate industries, and entrepreneurial ventures, promising a dynamic learning environment.

The 11-Month Post Graduate Certificate Programme in International Business & Finance aims at providing transformative experience and equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to excel in the ever-evolving world of Global Business and Finance.

- **4 Months Certificate Programme in Export and Import Management (Batch-21) – Hybrid (29 Jan. – 29 May 2024)**

The programme objective is to build knowledge on the key aspects of Export Import Management, know-how on International Business, Market and Buyer Identification as per the post-COVID shifts of consumer behaviour, changing stringency of import regulations, new foreign trade policy, changing domestic regulatory framework on farm bills and its impact on exports, and tools for enhancing price competitiveness towards surviving in business in light of limited and reduced global demand. In all, there are 54 participants from

various organizations attending the programme. The participants are the Founder, Co-Founder, General Manager, Senior Manager and Manager of their respective organizations. Dr. Ashish Gupta is the Programme Director.

- **Certificate Programme in International Business Excellence of Executives of TVS Motors (8 Feb. – Dec. 2024)**

The Certificate Programme in International Business Excellence of Executives of TVS Motors was started on 8 February 2024 in Bangalore. Dr. Preeti Tak is the Programme Director. There are 33 Participants in this programme.

- **24-Week Course in International Business Management for the Officers of Armed Forces, Sponsored by DGR (Batch-15) (12 Feb. –29 July 2024)**

MDP Division welcomed another batch of officers of the Armed Forces for the 24-week course in International Business Management conducted through the Directorate General of Resettlement, Department of Ex-Servicemen, and Welfare at IIFT, New Delhi. The Inaugural Ceremony of the same was conducted at IIFT Campus on 12 February 2024. Prof. Vijaya Katti, Prof. Asheesh Pandey (Head – MDP Division) and Dr. Anchal Arora (Programme Director, DGR IBM Batch-15) addressed the participants. There are 50 Participants in this programme.



- **11-Month Professional Training Programme on International Trade & Business for the Probationers of Indian Trade Service (ITS) (Batch-23) (2 Feb. 2024 – Jan. 2025)**

IIFT is a nodal Institute for conducting a Foundation training programme for Indian Trade Service Probationers, the 11-month Professional Training programme for 5 ITS probationers of batch 2023 was started from February 2024 to January 2025. The comprehensive training of 11 months is divided into four phases. While extensive classroom sessions coupled with various industry visits are undertaken during the first and third phases, in the second phase of the training, the probationers are attached to DGFT offices for practical exposure. Dr. Charu Grover is the Programme Director. There are 5 Participants in this programme.



- **Training Programme for the ASOs of the Department of Commerce (DoC) (21 Feb. – 8 April 2024)**

ASOs were given training at IIFT as a part of the ASOP Foundation Training Programme (FTP). There were 8 weeks of modules (2 hours per week) on Specific Domain areas which will help the trainees develop their understanding of the Domain of their Ministries/ Departments/ Organizations (MDO) and analyze the specific subjects of the concerned organization with the right perspective. Dr. Vijaya Katti is the Programme Director. There are 4 Participants in this programme.

- **Second Week Customized Training Programme on International Marketing Management and Trade for the employees of Bharat Dynamics Limited (4-8 March 2024)**

The MDP Division orchestrated a momentous inaugural ceremony to mark the commencement of the second week of the five-day training programme on International Marketing and Trade. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of 25 officers representing Bharat Dynamics Limited. The inaugural ceremony not only marked the beginning of an enriching educational voyage but also symbolized the collaborative spirit and dedication of all involved toward the advancement of knowledge and skills in the realm of international business management. Dr. Arunima Rana is the Programme Director for this course.



- **Professional Training Programme on Business Analytics for Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), (18 Dec. 2023 – 17 March 2024)**

The Management Development Programme (MDP) Division orchestrated a significant inaugural ceremony on 18 December 2023. This marked the initiation of a three-month Foundation Course on Foreign Trade tailored for the executives of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), the objective of the course is to provide knowledge of the practical challenges confronted by organizations like HPCL in the field of foreign trade. Dr. Charu Grover is the Programme Director.

- **24 Weeks Course in Global Supply Chain and Logistics Management for Officers of Armed Forces (Batch -16) (11 March – 6 Sept. 2024)**

MDP Division inaugurated the Course in Global Supply Chain and Logistics Management for Officers of Armed Forces on 11 March 2024, the programme is sponsored by the Director General of Resettlement. The Programme is aimed at equipping the skills and knowledge of the Officers of the Armed Forces on Global Supply Chain Management to enable them to prospectively explore career opportunities post-retirement. The participants are in the ranks of Group Capt, Squadron Leader, Brigadier, Lt. Colonel, Lt. Commander, Cdr, Colonel, Major Cdr. Wg Cdr., Comoder (Cmde) in the Indian Army, Air Force and Navy. Dr. Sugandha Huriya is the Programme Director. There are 34 Participants in this programme.



CATEGORY-WISE PROGRAMME DETAILS		
Programmes	No. of programmes	No. of participants
Sponsored Programmes	7	175
Hybrid/Online (long duration)	2	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>260</b>

## Participation by IIFT Faculty

**Dr. K. Rangarajan**, Head, IIFT-Kolkata Campus

- Participated in the International Conference on Digitalization in Commerce and Management organized by SRM University, Chennai.
- Attended the International Conference on “Changing Dynamics of India’s Foreign Policy: Challenges and Way Ahead” organized by Kanoria College, Jaipur as keynote speaker.
- IIFT-Kolkata conducted a discussion session on Union Budget 2024 in February 2024. Dr. Mitali Nikore and Dr. Kinshuk Acharya were the key speakers.
- IIFT, Kolkata conducted an economic seminar on Product Quality, Domestic Trade and International Trade: A theoretical and Empirical Analysis in February 2024. Dr. Sajal Lahiri, Vandaveer Chair Professor of Economics was the keynote speaker.
- Co-chaired the AIB South Asia Conference, 2024 in WCP, Nepal. Dr. Debashis Chakraborty has been awarded the best paper award at the AIB South Asia Conference 2024. Dr. Debashis Chakraborty and Dr. Saikat Banerjee of IIFT-Kolkata were invited as speakers at the said conference.

**Dr. Asheesh Pandey**, Professor

- Presented a paper on “Does Size Matters in Size Anomaly: Evidence from Asian Markets”, at EBES 46th International Conference in Rome, organized by Eurasia Business and Economics Society from 10-12 January 2024.

**Sujata Kar**, Associate Professor

- Selected for a Scholarship of ₹3.5 lakh for a project An Analysis of India’s Financial Vulnerabilities following Minsky’s Financial Instability Hypothesis, Sponsored by RBI from 18 December 2023 to 18 March 2024.



**Dr. Divya Tuteja**, Assistant Professor

- Presented a paper titled “Global Factors and Linkages between US and BRICS” in Winter School 2023 at the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics held on 14-16 December 2023.
- Presented a paper titled “Contagion and Inter-linkages across International Currencies” at the 2024 Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society, South Central and Western Asia (AMES-CSW 2024) at IIT-Delhi held on 12-14 January 2024.
- Presented a paper titled “Factors affecting Spillovers of US Recessions to BRICS” at the International Conference on “Recent Developments in Economics Research: Theory and Evidence” at CITD, JNU held on 7-8 March 2024.

**Dr. Oindrila Day**, Assistant Professor

- Presented a paper titled Reputational Impact on India’s Pharmaceutical Exports: Need for a ‘Carrot and Stick Policy?’ at 34th RSEP International Conference on Economics, Finance & Business Conference, Barcelona, Spain, 6-8 March 2024.

**Dr. Muhammed Rafi OPC**, Assistant Professor

- Presented a paper titled “Impact of Exchange Rate Movements on External Debt: Evidence from Emerging and Developing Economies” at the International Conference on ‘Recent Developments in Economics Research: Theory and Evidence’ organized by the Centre for International Trade and Development, School of International Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 7-8 March 2024. •

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## Activities of Graduate Studies Management (GSM) Division

Following are the Activities undertaken by the GSM Division during January-March 2024:

1. As part of the curriculum, a Port visit is one compulsory component whereby the students have to visit any port. The students of the MBA(IB) 2022-24 programme (Delhi Campus) visit ports located in Vietnam, Dubai, Thailand, Kochi, Mumbai and Mangalore from 15-20 January 2024.
2. The students of the MBA(IB) 2023-25 programme undertook their Summer Awareness Programme (SAP) in 14 different NGOs. Accordingly, SAP viva was held from 26-29 February 2024.
3. The students of the MBA(BA) 2023-25 batch also went for an Industrial visit to BHEL Haridwar on 28 February 2024.
4. Comprehensive Vivas were also held for the students of MBA(IB) 2023-25 and MBA(IB) 2021-24 programmes.
5. Dissertation Viva for the students of MBA(IB) 2022-24 was held from 26 February – 5 March 2024.
6. ‘The Final Adieu’ – a farewell ceremony for the batch of 2024 was held in the Auditorium on 14 March 2024. The outgoing batches of MBA(IB) 2022-24 and MBA(IB) 2021-24 were given a grand farewell which was followed by dinner.

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

#### Big Fight (9-12 January 2024)

January saw the clash of all sections of IIFT Delhi in a fun and healthy competitive environment.

Conducted and organized by Melange, - The Cultural Committee of IIFT, Delhi, Big Fight encapsulates all aspects of MBA, from the management of events to team building and communication.

Across various events, sports, and activities, Section A came out on top and was crowned a worthy winner of Section Wars 2024.

### **Photography Workshop (27 January 2024)**

Pixcell, IIFT hosted Photography 101, a workshop tailored for all photography enthusiasts at the institute. Guided by esteemed Dadasaheb Phalke Award recipient, Mr. Kshitij Sheetak from ShootGuru, commenced with an insightful exploration of the basics of composition and composure in photography, followed by an engaging hands-on outdoor session.

The workshop offered invaluable exposure and learning opportunities for attendees, enriching their passion for the art.

### **Adrenaline (2-4 February 2024)**

IIFT's flagship sports tournament conducted annually by The Sports Committee was a huge success this year with a record number of teams and colleges participating. Across various sports and events, players and teams fight it out to emerge champions in this legendary event.

### **Netritva (11 February 2024)**

The Division of Alumni Affairs & the Alumni Relations Committee have successfully hosted the Annual Flagship conclave Netritva. The theme for Netritva 2024 was "Unmasking the Human Leader".

The panelists for the discussion were:

1. Mr. Sanjay Gopinath: Head of Marketing, Mathworks India.
2. Ms. Neha Markanda: Head of E-Commerce, Google.
3. Mr. Amitabh Shergill: Sr. Director-Operations, Delhivery.

Netritva 2024 seeks to delve into the authentic, human aspects of leadership in a world dominated by technology and rapid change.

### **Quo Vadis (16-18 February 2024)**

Quo Vadis, the annual fest of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), is a vibrant and dynamic

celebration of culture, talent, and intellect. As one of the premier business schools in India, IIFT hosts Quo Vadis to provide a platform for students from across the country to showcase their skills, compete, collaborate, and network. The Latin phrase "Quo Vadis" translates to "Where are you going?" reflecting the essence of exploration and forward-thinking that defines the event.

### **Antarang by BrandWagon (24 February 2024)**

The National Advertising Conclave of IIFT Delhi was held on 24 February 2024. The conclave aimed to acquaint IIFT Delhi students with the advertising world and help them learn from first-hand insights and experience. The event consisted of multiple events and conclaves ranging from Ad-Decode, Ad-Mads, Ad-Fiesta and Mega Ad quiz battles.

### **Prodsahan (25 February 2024)**

Systemix's - The IT Consulting, Analytics, Prodman, and E-Commerce Club flagship event of the year where students compete to not just show their product management skills, but also learn, unlearn and relearn new skills and knowledge of the latest trends in Prodman and E-commerce.

This year, Prodsahan was organized on 25 February on campus and included the PM Board Room Challenge, PM Workshop, and PM Product Pitch Relay challenge. Under these three events, top corporate leaders and managers became a part of us and judged the events along with conducting workshops for students of IIFT and beyond.

### **Aakhri Dangal (2-5 March 2024)**

Organized by The Sports Committee, Aakhri Dangal pitches the senior and junior batches of IIFT's full-time MBA Programmes against each other. In an epic clash, both batches compete to prove themselves as the masters in all things sports. This year, as is the tradition, the senior batch won with an impressive performance across dozens of events. ●