



**INDIAN
INSTITUTE OF
FOREIGN
TRADE**

IIFT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY-MARCH 2025

From the Vice Chancellor's Desk



At a time when the global economy and society are experiencing rapid transformation, the role of academic institutions becomes even more critical. Universities must serve as spaces where emerging challenges are studied with rigour and innovative solutions are encouraged. This newsletter is a testimony to our endeavour to remain connected with such issues while also highlighting the achievements and contributions of our community.

I commend the editorial team for their dedication to bringing together diverse voices and perspectives. I hope the readers will find this issue both informative and thought-provoking. Let this platform continue to strengthen our shared vision of excellence, inclusivity, and global engagement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "R. Joshi" with a horizontal line underneath.

Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi
Vice Chancellor
Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

From the Editor's Desk



In this shifting landscape, the responsibility of leadership is sharper than ever. Multilateral institutions like the WTO must adapt with agility, broadening their agenda to include digital trade, climate change, and inclusive development. Reforming dispute-settlement mechanisms, updating trade rules for the digital age, and embedding sustainability in trade negotiations are not optional they are urgent. At the same time, governments and businesses must approach supply chain diversification as a strategy for resilience, not rivalry, ensuring that new networks do not merely replicate old asymmetries under a different name.

Finally, the role of technology diffusion must be elevated. Building global capacity in digital infrastructure, skills, and governance frameworks is essential if the gains of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies are to be shared equitably. Without this, the promise of digital trade will harden into a fault line between those who can innovate and those who must consume. Trade must once again become a vehicle of inclusion, not division.

The world stands at a decisive juncture. If the forces of protectionism, digital exclusion, and geopolitical rivalry are allowed to dominate, the outcome will be fragmentation and instability. But if nations choose cooperation, reform, and equitable innovation, the outcome can be resilience and shared prosperity. The future of global trade, and indeed of global peace, depends on which path we collectively choose.

It gives me great pleasure to present this edition of our newsletter, which reflects the academic vibrancy and intellectual commitment of our community. A newsletter is not merely a record of events; it is a window into the ideas, initiatives, and aspirations that define the institution. It captures the collective effort of faculty, students, and staff in advancing knowledge, engaging with pressing global issues, and contributing to policy and practice.

Dr. Sheeba Kapil
Head (Publications)

Management Development Programmes

24-Week Course in International Business Management for the Officers of DGR Batch 18 (10 February to 25 July 2025)

This comprehensive 24-week Certificate Programme is designed specifically for the Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR) officers. Focusing on key aspects of International Business Management, the programme aims to equip participants with the necessary skills to manage organizational resources, understand and dynamic business environments effectively. The course catered to the needs of 50 DGR officers and was successfully conducted from 10 February to 25 July 2025, combining theoretical knowledge with practical insights.



Certificate Programme in International Business Excellence for the Officers of TVS Motors. (5 February to December 2025)

To upgrade the knowledge of working executives of TVS Motors and to enhance their operational competence, the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi, has offered a Certificate Programme in International Business Excellence. A thorough knowledge of the various facets of international business is essential in the present global economic and trading environment. In particular, competition in world markets a challenges executives engaged in export marketing pursuits. Unless they keep themselves abreast with the new developments, rapid changes in international business practices, and innovative marketing strategies pursued by the competitors, export executives cannot effectively capitalize on the available or emerging market opportunities.

3-Day International Trade and Negotiations for the Officers of ECGC Ltd. (6-8 February 2025)

The 3-day International Trade and Negotiations training programme was designed to provide participants with insights into international trade dynamics, negotiation techniques, and cross-border trade strategies. This course aims to enhance the participants' negotiation capabilities and global trade awareness, focusing on practical applications in international business and trade negotiations from 6-8 February 2025.

11-Months Professional Training Programme on International Trade and Business for ITS Probationers – Batch-2023 (February 2024 to January 2025)

The training programme equips the ITS Probationers with the practical and technical aspects of Indian Trade through classroom discussions and experiential learning methods. The duration of the programme was 11 months with 3 phases. The courses were divided into classroom courses and experiential learning through visits. Classroom courses were designed to help students understand the concepts and techniques of international trade.

The 3 phases includes:

Phase I (for 6 Months): During the ITS Probationers training programme, classroom sessions and experiential learning through visits are part of Phase I & III.



Phase II (for 3 Months): On completion of the first phase of the training, the probationers are attached to DGFT during the second phase.

Phase III (for 2 Months): They undergo the third phase of training with classroom teaching and experiential learning through visits, including a Dissertation at IIFT.

Training Programme on ‘International Trade and Business’ for the Assistant Section Officers of the Department of Commerce, Government of India (18 February to 24 March 2025)

This offline training programme for the International Trade and Business catered to the needs of 8 Assistant Section Officers from the Department of Commerce. Coordinated by Dr.

Vijaya Katti, this programme provided comprehensive coverage of global trade practices and business strategies. Participants gained essential skills to navigate international trade policies better and enhance their roles in trade and business from 18 February to 24 March 2025.



Division of Alumni Affairs

1. Netritva 2025

We successfully concluded Netritva’25 on 1 March 2025, and what an incredible experience it has been! The event stood as a testament to the power of collaboration, insight, and inspiration, leaving a lasting impact on everyone who attended.

The day commenced on an auspicious note with the lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom. This was followed by the official launch of our quarterly alumni magazine, *Aluminati*, unveiled by Dr. Sanjay Rastogi, Head of the Division of Alumni Affairs.

A heartfelt thank you to our esteemed guests — Mr. Saurabh Agrawal, Mr. Manu Bajaj, Ms. Kanupriya Saldi, Ms. Meenakshi Kaul, and Mr. Naveen Gupta — for gracing the occasion with their presence and sharing their invaluable insights. Their engaging discussion on the spirit of entrepreneurship and its inside-out journey offered students a deeper understanding of the challenges and triumphs that define the entrepreneurial path.



One of the key highlights of Netritva’25 was the introduction of live projects under the guidance of our distinguished alumni, offering students a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience and real-world industry exposure. This initiative marks a significant step toward bridging classroom learning with practical application.

2. ARC Farewell

On 21 March 2025, we bid a heartfelt farewell to the outgoing members of the Alumni Relations Committee, marking the end of a remarkable

journey filled with dedication, collaboration, and unforgettable moments.

The evening was a beautiful blend of emotion and celebration, as we came together to express our deepest gratitude to the seniors who have shaped ARC with their relentless efforts and unwavering commitment. Through their initiatives, events, and behind-the-scenes work, they not only strengthened the alumni-student bond but also left behind a legacy of excellence and professionalism.



Participation by IIFT Faculty

Dr. K. Rangarajan, Professor and Head, Kolkata Campus

- Presented a paper on “The Impact of Cluster Governance and Value Networks on Cluster and ESG Performance of MSME Cluster - A Research Framework” in the 10th INDAM Conference held 16-18 January 2025.

Dr. Prabir Kumar Das, Professor

- Das, P.K. (2025), “A Multivariate Framework for Seller Ratings in B2B E-Commerce: Integrating Transaction-Level Metrics and Feedback Scores”, presented in Global Business Research Conference 2025, IIFT New Delhi, during 26-28 March 2025.
- Das, P.K. and Marjit, S. (2025), Leveraging Machine Learning to Analyze the Economic and Policy Implications of Guar Production and Exports, Invited Talk in the 27th Annual Conference of SSCA on ‘Advances of Interdisciplinary Statistics and Applications in AI and ML (AISAAM 2025)’ organized by the Department of Statistics, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong Meghalaya during 21-23 February 2025.
- Ghosh, K. and Das, P.K. (2025), Analyzing the Financial Implications of the Indian Digital Personal Data Protection Act (2023): A Machine Learning Approach, ICCBP, MDIM, 9-11 January 2025.

Dr. Saikat Banerjee, Professor

- Pundlik, A.G., and Banerjee, S. (2025), “Exploring Faith Dimensions to Influence Pro-Environmental Marketing Behavior: A Literature Review”, presented in the 11th Management Doctoral Colloquium held on 30-31 January 2025 at VGSOM, IIT Kharagpur.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad Sharma, Professor

- Invited as a Speaker at the India Today GI Samagam at Bharat Mandapam on 22 January 2025.

Dr. Saswati Tripathi, Professor

- Kambale, V. V. and Tripathi, S. (2025), “Integrating Supply Chain Digitalization, Supply Chain Resilience Dimensions, and Supply Chain Performance: A Systematic Literature Review and Directions for Future Research”, Paper presented at the 10th Indian Academy of Management (INDAM) Conference, 15-18 January 2025, IIFT, Kolkata Campus.

Dr. Asheesh Pandey, Professor

- Participated in the International Conference INDAM, held from 15-18 January 2025, as a *Session Chair*, and served as *Conference Chair* at the Global Business Research Conference (GBRC-2025), held from 26-28 March 2025.

Dr. Oly Mishra, Assistant Professor

- Co-chair in the INDAM 2025 Conference for the Entrepreneurship challenges and Smooth Sailing Track at IIFT - Kolkata from 15-18 January 2025.

- Participated in a one-day ICSSR National Conference on Rural Women Empowerment through Entrepreneurial Marketing by NMIMS - Hyderabad on 8 February 2025.

Publications by IIFT Faculty

Dr. Prabir Kumar Das, Professor

- Das, Pijush Kumar, and Das, Prabir Kumar (2025), "Artificial Intelligence and Inflation Forecasting: A Contemporary Perspective", *South Asian Journal of Macroeconomics and Public Finance*, 0(0).

Dr. Rajendra Prasad Sharma, Professor

- Rai, A.N. Singh, M. Sharma, R.P., and Sen, A. (2025), "Role of Cultural Fairs in Re-Imaging Cognitive Image of City Brands: Studying the Deepotsav in Ayodhya", *Trans. Inst. Indian Geographers*, Vol. 47, No. 1, pp. 175-188.

Dr. Niti Nandini Chatnani, Professor

- Maheshwari, S. Chatnani, N.N. (2025), "Leakage of Floor Price in OFS and Proposed Surveillance Approach for Indian Capital Markets", March, *Review of Behavioral Finance*.
- Ghai, R., Goel, P., Chatnani, N.N., and Misra, R. (2025), "A Qualitative Enquiry of Sustainability Challenges of SHGs Enterprises Post-COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from India", March, *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy*.

Dr. Saswati Tripathi, Professor

- Tripathi, S., Roy, S.S., and Talukder, B. (2025), "The Effect of Firm-Specific Determinants on Export Performance: The Mediating Role of Supply Chain Performance", *International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management*, 74.4, pp. 1297-1325.

Dr. Divya Tuteja, Assistant Professor

- Dua, P., and Tuteja, D. (2025), "Impact of Conventional and Unconventional Monetary

Policy on Correlations across Financial Markets: Evidence from an Emerging Economy", *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade*, 61(8), pp. 2280-2301.

Dr. Oindrila Dey, Assistant Professor

- Dey, O., Chakraborty, S. (2025), "Access to Credit: Hindrance to Technology Transfer?" *Indian Economic Review*.

Dr. Charu Grover Sharma, Assistant Professor

- Sharma, Grover, C., Bansal, S. and Martinez-Cruz, A.L. (2025), "Preferences for Energy Efficient Cars in New Delhi: A Discrete Choice Experiment Exploring Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Interventions", *Transportation*.

Dr. Oly Mishra, Assistant Professor

- Mishra, O., and Dharmavaram, V.G. (2025), "Toward an Intelligent Cybersecurity System: The Role of Machine Learning", *The Techno Legal Dynamics of Cyber Crimes in Industry 5.0*, Wiley, pp. 43-54.
- Mishra, O. (2025), "From Barriers to Metrics: Implementing Circular Economy in Social and Commercial Textile Enterprises Navigating Strategic Partnerships for Sustainable Startup Growth", *IGI Global*, pp. 335-390.
- Mishra, O. (2025), "Frugal Innovation and Ethical Consumerism, Navigating Sustainable Paths for Global Prosperity", *Advances in Business Strategy and Competitive Advantage*, pp. 129-154.

Division of MA (Economics)

The teaching for the MA Economics Programmes, Batch 2023-25 (Semester IV) and Batch 2024-26 (Semester II), is currently in progress.

The Webinars/Events conducted by IIFT Economics Society (IES)/ Economics Division Seminar Series MA (Eco) 2023-25 batch and MA (Eco) 2024-26 batch are given below:

Date	Organize	Topic	Speaker	Attended by (Economics Division)
18 Jan. 2025 (Online)	IFSA IIFT Team from Kolkata	Navigating BFSI Labyrinths: Scenarios and Macro Insights.	Mr. Amogh Karnat	Delhi and Kolkata
24 Jan. 2025	Placement Committee	“Basics of Investing and Riding the Market Rollercoaster”. Upstox is a financial services provider in India that offers a trading platform for stocks, commodities, mutual funds and many more.	Mr. Jay Mehta, Director, Upstox	Delhi and Kolkata
25 Jan. 2025 (Online)	IFSA IIFT Team from Delhi	“Financial Analysis Bootcamp”. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical techniques for effective financial analysis. • Strategies from a seasoned corporate finance expert. 	Ms. Savita Chandora	Delhi and Kolkata
6 Feb. 2025	IES & Praxis Collaboration Event: Budget Panel	Budget Panel Discussion, in collaboration with the Praxis Economics Club, to analyze the key highlights and implications of the upcoming Union Budget.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. R.M. Joshi, Vice Chancellor, IIFT 2. Dr. Biswajit Nag, Professor, IIFT 3. Mr. Sishir Sinha, Associate Editor, Business Line 4. Dr. Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, International Council for Research on International Economic Relations 5. Mr. Alan Seemon, Consultant, Economic Policy, EY 	Delhi and Kolkata
13 Feb. 2025	IIFT Economics Society (I.E.S)	Lecture Series	Dr. C.V. Raman	Delhi (1 st year batch)
15 Feb. 2025	Placement Committee (Dhrubajyoti Das)	A Talk on “Corporate Lifestyle and Work Life Culture”	Mr. Varchasv Singh, McKinsey & Company	Delhi and Kolkata
17 Feb. 2025	IIFT Economics Society (I.E.S.)	“Lecture Series Event” This session is being organized in	Ms. Aahana Srishti, IES Officer (AIR 3)	Delhi and Kolkata

Date	Organize	Topic	Speaker	Attended by (Economics Division)
		collaboration with the Alumni Relations Committee of IIFT.	and a Distinguished Alumna of IIFT	
21 Feb. 2025	IIFT Analytics Club	“Role of Economists in Banking and Financial Institutions”	Miss Yuvika Singhal, Economist at QuantEco Research	Delhi and Kolkata

Ph.D. (Economics)

The coursework for the Ph.D. Programme in Economics (Batches 2022–27 and 2024–29) is currently underway. DAC meetings, progress seminars, and other Ph.D. programme-related activities are being conducted in accordance with the respective academic calendars of the batches.

Research Studies in Progress

1. The Future of UK-India Trade and Cross Border Investment in a Changing Global Environment (Sponsor: ICSSR-ESRC-UKRI)
2. Appointment of Designated Agencies under Brand Promotion in Footwear and Leather Sector sub-scheme of Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP) (DPIIT).

Date	Organize	Topic	Speaker	Attended by (Economics Division)
10-14 Feb. 2025	Economics Division	The Economics Division, IIFT Delhi is organizing a Five-day Research Methodology Workshop on Data Analysis using Statistical Software.	Prof. Pami Dua, Delhi School of Economics	Delhi

Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

1. The CDOE Division conducts the MOOC programme on the ‘Basics of Export-Import Management’ under the Niryat Bandhu Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. Certificates are awarded monthly after the participants pass the examination successfully. 48 Certificates were distributed to the participants during January to March 2025.
2. MBA(IB) Online Programme 2023-25 – Semester-IV is in progress (11 participants).
3. The division organized a one-day industry visit to the Honda Plant in Manesar, Gurugram, for the students of the MBA(IB) Online Programme and the Online Certificate Programme on 17 March 2025.
4. The following online certificate programmes are ongoing:

Programme Name	Duration	No. of Participants	Status
Online Certificate Programme on Export Import Management Batch -01	Sept. 2024– Feb. 2025	32	End-Term examination completed, results under process
Online Certificate Programme on Export Import Management Batch -02	Jan. 2025– May 2025	28	Online Lecture sessions are being conducted.

Activities of Research Division

Seminar & Conferences

• National Seminar

A National Seminar on “Role of MSME Exports in Building Viksit Bharat” was organized by the Research Division, IIFT New Delhi, on 10 January 2025. Seventy-five participants, participated in the seminar, including various Export Promotion Councils, MSME Associations, Corporates, Start-up owners, and Research Scholars. Shri Devendra Kumar Singh, Chairperson, Cooperative Election Authority, Ministry of Cooperation, Govt. of India, was the Chief Guest. Shri Mohit Bhasin, Global Co-lead & National Lead, Economic Growth and Public Services, delivered a Special Address during the event.

• Global Business Research Conference (GBRC 2025)

The Institute successfully conducted a three-day Global Business Research Conference (GBRC 2025) around the theme “Beyond Boundaries: Reimagining Research in a Globalised World” during 26-28 March 2025.

The Institute received over 185 research papers from faculty members and research scholars from around the world, out of which 112 papers were from seven tracks:

- (i) Global Trade & Business Competitiveness.
- (ii) Financial Management.
- (iii) Economics and Public Policy.
- (iv) Marketing Management.
- (v) General Management & Strategy.

(vi) Information Technology & Analytics.

(vii) Operations & Supply Chain Management.

The conference witnessed active participation from national and international delegates, with diverse sessions facilitating dialogue across various business, management, and economics domains. Through keynote addresses, panel discussions, paper presentations, and networking opportunities, GBRC 2025 successfully created a vibrant and forward-thinking research environment aligned with global challenges and opportunities.

The following were the key speakers during the conference:

- (1) Shri Rajarshi Gupta, Managing Director & CEO, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), India.
- (2) Prof. Satyanarayan Kothe – Associate Editor, Indian Economic Journal.
- (3) Prof. Michael Dowling – Associate Editor, International Review of Financial Analysis, Finance Research Letters, Research in International Business and Finance.
- (4) Prof. Gurmeet Singh – Associate Editor, Journal of Global Marketing.
- (5) Ms. Natasha JhaBhaskar, Newland Global Group, Australia.
- (6) Shri MohitMalhotra, CEO, Dabur India Ltd.
- (7) Prof. Ajay Manrai, Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Global Marketing & Professor Emeritus, University of Delaware.

I. Research Projects

Ongoing Projects

Year	Name of Project	Proposal Submitted to	Team Members
2025-26	India's Export Potential for Pet Food Industry	CAPEXIL	Dr. Asheesh Pandey Dr. Pooja Lakhanpal Dr. Charu Grover
2025-26	A Comprehensive Study of Socio-Economic and Sustainability Factors Influencing the Implementation of PM Surya Ghar: Solar Bijli Yojna in Rural Areas of South Bihar	ICSSR	Dr. Tanweer Ahmed
2025-26	Implementing PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojna in Tribal Areas of Jharkhand- Investigating the Drivers and Barriers of Solar Rooftop Adoption'	ICSSR	Dr. Tanweer Ahmed

II. Ph.D. Programme

Release of Research Pulse

The Bi-annual magazine "Research Pulse" (Vol II, Issue 1) was released on 27 March 2025.

Research Talks

Topic	Date	Keynote Speaker
Strategies for Increasing Productivity and Measurement of Doctoral-Multidisciplinary Research	5 March 2025	Prof. Prem Vrat, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad
Metaverse through the integrated theoretical lenses of task technology fit theory, social capital theory, and social cognitive theory: the case of SMEs	25 March 2025	Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Head, School of Business & Management, The University of the South Pacific

Peer-to-Peer Interactions

Topic	Date	Speaker
The Ph.D. Journey	18 Feb. 2025	Dr. Ana Sinha (Ph.D. Alumna of IIFT and currently Assistant Professor at FORE School of Management)

About IIFT

Indian Institute of Foreign Trade is an autonomous institute under the aegis of the Ministry of commerce, Government of India. The institute was granted “Deemed to be University” status in 2002. The Institute is granted AACSB accreditation on 17th November 2021. With this, IIFT bags a position amongst the top 900+ business institutes in the world having received this accreditation. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has also recognized IIFT as Grade “A+” institution in its third cycle in 2023. IIFT has four Campuses: Delhi, Kolkata, Kakinada, and GIFT City (Gandhinagar). IIFT is also opening its first overseas campus at Expo City Dubai.

