



NIFT Students Make a Mark at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 with Two Silver Medals and a Medal for Excellence

NIFT participants excel in Fashion Technology, Digital Interactive Media Design, Retail Sales and Visual Merchandising

NIFT's Engagement with WorldSkills 2026 Reinforces Global Standards and Industry Readiness

Posted On: 29 SEP 2026 12:11PM by PIB Delhi

The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has recorded a significant achievement at the **48th WorldSkills Competition, Shanghai 2026**, with NIFT students and experts representing India across key fashion and creative skill areas, including Fashion Technology, Digital Interactive Media Design, Retail Sales and Visual Merchandising.

WorldSkills Shanghai 2026, held in Shanghai, China, from **23 to 26 September 2026**, brought together more than **1,400 young competitors from around 68 countries and regions in 64 Skills**. India participated with its largest-ever contingent of **70 competitors across 63 skills**, securing **10th position with 6 Silver Medals and 20 Medals for Excellence**.

In the event, NIFT was represented in four skill areas—**Fashion Technology, Visual Merchandising, Retail Sales and Digital Interactive Media Design**. The participation reflected the expanding role of fashion education across creative, digital and retail-oriented skill domains. NIFT's participation contributed significantly to this achievement, with its participants securing **2 Silver Medals and a Medal for Excellence across three skill categories**.

Fashion Technology has been a longstanding area of NIFT's participation at WorldSkills, with the Institute participating in the skill since 2011. At Shanghai 2026, **Ms. Vidhi Niravkumar Suthar**, a Fashion Design graduate from NIFT Gandhinagar, represented India in Fashion Technology and received a Medal for Excellence.



Ms. Vidhi underwent an intensive four-month training programme at NIFT New Delhi under the guidance of **Prof. (Dr.) Monika Gupta, Indian Expert**, and the NIFT training team. Prof. Gupta, who has extensive experience in Fashion Design and WorldSkills, provided intensive preparation, mentoring and guidance throughout the training period. The programme focused on strengthening technical proficiency, precision, adherence to international standards and the ability to perform under WorldSkills competition conditions.



Ms. Vidhi Niravkumar Suthar
NIFT Gandhinagar
Medal for Excellence
Fashion Technology

In **Digital Interactive Media Design**, **Mr. Kovid Ajay Gangrade** from NIFT Mumbai won a **Silver Medal**, while **Ms. Saniya Joshi** from NIFT Panchkula won a **Silver Medal in Retail Sales**. Their achievements are particularly significant as Retail Sales and Digital Interactive Media Design are among the new and emerging skill categories highlighted at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026, reflecting the changing nature of the fashion and creative industries and the growing integration of technology, digital platforms and customer experience with the sector.



Mr. Kovid Ajay Gangrade
NIFT Mumbai
Silver Medal
Digital Interactive Media Design



Ms. Saniya Joshi
NIFT Panchkula
Silver Medal
Retail Sales

NIFT's participation also extended to **Visual Merchandising**, with **Ms. Anuja Ajay Vare** from NIFT Bengaluru representing India in the skill.



Anuja Ajay Vare
NIFT Bengaluru
Participant
Visual Merchandising

For NIFT, the WorldSkills journey represents more than participation in an international competition. It provides students with exposure to **global occupational standards, emerging technologies, international benchmarks and industry expectations**. The experience also enables NIFT to continuously strengthen its training methodologies and integrate global best practices into its academic and skill-development ecosystem.

The success of NIFT participants at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 demonstrates the Institute's continued commitment to developing professionals equipped to compete at the highest international levels, while bringing together **fashion, technology, creativity, retail and digital skills**.

NIFT congratulated its students, experts, trainers, officials, Ministry of Textiles and all those involved in their preparation and participation at **WorldSkills Shanghai 2026**.

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(Release ID: 2316376) Visitor Counter : 723

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