



January-March 2026



Samavaya

Events & Activities

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IIM Lucknow Noida Campus welcomes 34th batch of DGMP cohorts

The 34th batch of the Defence General Management Programme was inaugurated in the presence of Prof. Ajay Singh, Dean, IIM Lucknow Noida Campus, and Prof. Anita Goyal, Chairperson, MDP. Programme Directors Prof. Venkat Saddikuti and Prof. Ashish Aggarwal outlined the academic structure. The ceremony was graced by Brig Inder Pal Singh and Lt Col Rohit Wadhawan, highlighting a strong commitment to executive education for defence leadership.



Reimagining the Future of MBA Education at ISDSI Global Conference

On 26th December, 2025, Prof. M.P. Gupta participated in the Director's Panel at the 19th ISDSI Global Conference hosted by IMI Kolkata. Centred on "Tech for Net Zero," the discussion explored how digitalisation and AI are reshaping MBA education in India. Leaders deliberated on curriculum innovation, pedagogy, and future-ready skills, while emphasising the need to balance technological advancement with ethics, inclusivity, and sound judgement.



Celebrating India's Living Traditions at VIRASAT 2026

VIRASAT 2026, hosted by the SPIC MACAY chapter on 10th and 11th January, 2026, was a celebration of India's living traditions and classical art forms.

Day one featured an interactive Sikki Grass Weaving workshop led by Padma Shri awardee Ruby Devi, a master artisan known for her lifelong contribution to the craft.



Day two witnessed an evening of classical excellence with a Carnatic violin recital by Sangita Kalanidhi Lalgudi G. J. R. Krishnan, accompanied by B. Harikumar on the mridangam and N. Radhakrishnan on the ghatam, delivering a rich and evocative musical experience. The evening concluded with a captivating Kathak performance by Vidha Lal, leaving the audience spellbound.



Crescendo 2026: A Celebration of Talent, Energy and Togetherness

Crescendo 2026 transformed the IIM Lucknow Noida campus into a vibrant hub of student expression and community spirit. The event, held on 10th and 11th January, 2026, featured CR ki Baarat, Roadies, Speed Dating, Prom, and a bonfire.

Highlights included musical and dance performances, a fashion show, Student of the Year, and a treasure hunt, concluding with a lively comedy set by Tarang Hardikar.



Run for Swadeshi Marks Vivekananda Jayanti with Purpose and Pride

The campus organised a 'Run for Swadeshi' on 12th January, 2026, to mark the 164th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The 2 km run was flagged off by Prof. Sanjeev Kapoor, Dean (Faculty), followed by reflections on economic self-reliance. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Sushil Kumar, Dean (Infrastructure), fostering a strong sense of community.

The morning wrapped up with kulhad tea, traditional desi refreshments, and conversations that stayed true to the spirit of Swadeshi, making it a celebration of ideas, action, and community at IIM Lucknow.



Republic Day Celebrations at IIM Lucknow

Republic Day was commemorated across Lucknow and Noida campuses with the unfurling of the Tricolour by Prof. M.P. Gupta on 26th January, 2026.

The occasion honoured the values of the Constitution and reaffirmed a shared commitment to justice, integrity, and excellence.

The celebration served as a reminder of the institution's role in nurturing responsible leaders dedicated to upholding democratic principles and contributing meaningfully to society.



Strengthening Global Connections at the Singapore Alumni Meet



An alumni meet in Singapore on January 25th, brought together members of the global community in the presence of Prof. M.P. Gupta, Director, Mr. Vinit S Chauhan, President, Alumni Committee, Prof. Arunabha Mukhopadhyay, and Prof. V. S. Prakash Attili.

The gathering enabled meaningful conversations and renewed connections, reinforcing strong alumni bonds across geographies.

Prof. M.P. Gupta Engages with Hon'ble Education Minister to Shape Future-Ready Institutions

On 3rd February, 2026, Prof. M.P. Gupta, Director, met Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education, in New Delhi to discuss the role of academic institutions in shaping future-ready leaders.

The interaction reflected a shared emphasis on strengthening academic engagement and the role of leading institutions in shaping future-ready leaders. During the meeting, Prof. Gupta extended an invitation to the Hon'ble Minister to visit the IIM Lucknow campus and engage with the student community.

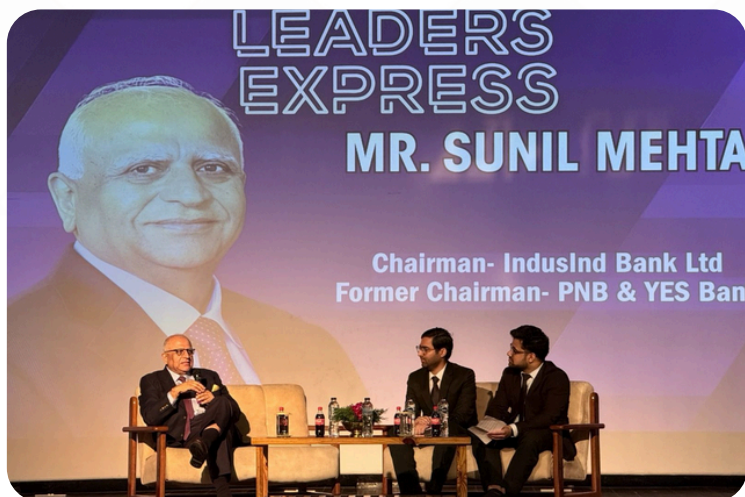


Manfest-Varchasva 2026

From 7th to 9th February, 2026, IIM Lucknow hosted Manfest–Varchasva 2026, welcoming 30,000+ attendees, including 5,000+ students from over 150 colleges, for three days of thought leadership, competition, and entertainment, reaffirming its legacy as Asia's largest B-school festival.

The festival's flagship Leaders' Express series brought together an illustrious lineup of speakers, including Mr. Sunil Mehta, Chairperson, IndusInd Bank; Dr. Rajeshwar Singh, MLA and former Joint Director, Enforcement Directorate; Ms. Asmita Satyarthi, CEO, Satyarthi Movement for Global Compassion; Mr. Nishant Kumar Sinha, Founder, Roastery Coffee House; Mr. Anil Swarup, Founder, Nexus of Good and former IAS officer; Mr. Indrajeet Sengupta, former CHRO at Johnson & Johnson and Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages; Mr. Amit Chandra, Vice President, IDS; and Mr. Ashwini Kumar Tiwari, Managing Director, State Bank of India, who shared insights on leadership, innovation, governance, ethics, and institution-building.

The festival featured marquee management events such as Flipkart's Minute to Win it, Vridhi (Season 4), Qrioso, and the Grand Model United Nations Conference, alongside cultural competitions including Vibes, Taal, Halla Bol, Sur, Duez Danza, Izhaar, Rohan, JashN, Antarnaad, Imperio, and Stairway to Hell. The celebrations culminated with electrifying performances by Bismil Ki Mehfil, Papon, and Seedhe Maut, bringing the three-day festival to a memorable close.





Nostalgia 2026: A Homecoming of Memories, Bonds and Legacy

Nostalgia 2026, held on 31st January, 2026 at the Noida campus, brought together alumni from IPMX, PGP-SM, and PGP-WE for a heartfelt celebration of shared journeys and enduring connections. The event opened with a ceremonial lamp lighting and address by Prof. M.P. Gupta, Director, followed by remarks from Prof. Rajesh Aithal, Chairperson, Alumni Affairs. *A Back to Classroom session* by Prof. R.K. Srivastava, along with interactive activities and cultural showcases, culminated in a Starry Night celebration, reaffirming the strength of the alumni community.



5th edition of AIRC & DW 2026 Concludes on a High Note

The 5th Annual International Research Conference & Doctoral Workshop held from 12th to 14th February, 2026, brought together over 170 researchers and scholars, featuring 140+ paper presentations across 11 tracks.

The conference commenced with an inaugural address by Prof. M.P. Gupta, Director, setting the tone for impactful research. Academic sessions included insights from Prof. Indranil Bose (NEOMA Business School) and Prof. Sushant Kumar, with proceedings convened by Prof. Pradeep Kumar.

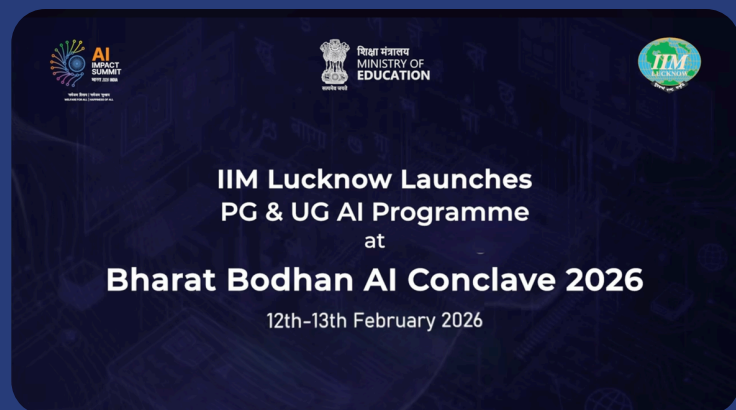


AI Programmes Inaugurated at Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave 2026

In a landmark development towards the field of AI, on 12th February, 2026, Hon'ble Union Education Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Artificial Intelligence at the Bharat Bodhan AI Conclave. Designed to integrate advanced technology with management and public policy, the programmes aim to build responsible, inclusive, and globally relevant AI capabilities.

IIM Lucknow will now offer-

1. BS in Artificial Intelligence and Business Analytics (a 4-year undergraduate programme) from 2026-27
2. Tech MBA (2 Years) starting from 2027-28
3. Integrated BS and Tech MBA Dual Degree (5 Years) starting from 2027-28



IPMX Secures Top Rank in FT MBA Rankings 2026

In a significant global achievement, the International Programme in Management for Executives (IPMX) secured the 58th rank in the Financial Times MBA Rankings 2026, marking a jump of 13 positions.

The milestone reflects the collective efforts of faculty, students, alumni, and industry partners, and underscores a sustained commitment to delivering world-class management education and nurturing globally responsible leadership.



IIM Lucknow at India AI Impact Summit 2026

At the India AI Impact Summit on February 17th, Prof. M.P. Gupta, Director, shared insights on “Inclusive AI at Scale: Turning Social Impact into Sustainable Markets.” The discussion highlighted the potential of AI to address challenges across agriculture, healthcare, and livelihoods while generating economic value. Emphasising the need for robust talent pipelines and industry-linked learning, he also addressed challenges in global scalability, underlining the importance of strong digital infrastructure to sustain India’s AI-led growth.



Inauguration Ceremony for the 35th Batch of APGOSCA Programme

Marking another step in executive education, the 35th batch of the Advanced Programme in Global Operations and Supply Chain Analytics was inaugurated on February 18th, 2026 with 38 Army officers.



Conducted in collaboration with the Directorate General Resettlement, the programme supports transition into corporate leadership roles. The inauguration featured Brig. Vikas Batra and Lt. Col. Priyank Srivastava, alongside Programme Directors Prof. Sushil Kumar and Prof. Dharendra Mani Shukla, with Prof. Madhumita Chakraborty, Chairperson, MDP, addressing the cohort.

Strengthening India–Japan Ties Through Innovation and Academic Collaboration



On 23rd February, 2026, a high-level Japanese delegation led by Governor Ichita Yamamoto of Gunma Prefecture visited the Noida campus to explore collaboration in digital transformation, entrepreneurship, and education.



The visit featured the “India & Gunma: A Special Connection” initiative and highlighted the Digital Creative School project.

Discussions focused on research partnerships, start-up incubation, and talent exchange, marking a meaningful step in advancing Indo-Japanese cooperation.

Empowering Future Leaders: AALP Scholarship Awards First Cohort

Marking a significant milestone, the Adani Accelerated Leadership Program (AALP) Scholarship was awarded to 6 students from IIM Lucknow. Originally launched by Mr. Jeet Adani, Director, Adani Airport, the scholarship fully supports high-potential management students through 100% coverage of tuition fee along with an industry exposure. The inaugural cohort—Ayush Srivastava, Chandrakant Kumar, KHS Hemanth, Darshit Kotadiya, Shivam Saraswat, and Vishal Kumar Singh—embodies the programme’s vision of nurturing future-ready leaders.



Final Placements 2024–26 Reflect Strong Outcomes and Global Demand

The final placements for the 2024–26 cohort concluded with over **580+ offers** extended across the PGP and PGP-ABM programmes, underscoring strong industry confidence. The season recorded an average salary of ₹33.2 LPA and a median of ₹32.9 LPA, with the **highest domestic offer reaching ₹1 crore per annum** and **international offers going up to ₹65 lakh per annum**.

Students were placed across key domains including Consulting, Finance, General Management, Product Management, Sales & Marketing, Operations, Retail, and E-Commerce. The process saw participation from a diverse mix of recruiters, including first-time partners such as Accuracy, Agratas, Analysys Mason, Berger, BlackRock, boAt, Darwinbox, Dezerv, Essar Group, Forvis Mazars, HDFC IB, Hero Future Energies, HiLabs, Jindal Steel, Neo Asset Management, and Uber.

At the same time, legacy recruiters including Accenture, Aditya Birla Group, Adobe, Amazon, Alvarez & Marsal, American Express, Bain & Company, Boston Consulting Group, Deloitte, EY-Parthenon, Goldman Sachs, Google, J.P. Morgan, Kearney, McKinsey & Company, Microsoft, Procter & Gamble, PwC, Reliance Industries, and Tata Administrative Services continued to recruit actively. The season reflects the depth of talent, resilience, and industry readiness of the graduating cohort.



Expanding Global Academic Partnerships with UEF, Vietnam



Strengthening international collaboration, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on February 26th, 2026 with UEF – Ho Chi Minh City University of Economics and Finance.

The MoU, formalised in the presence of Prof. M.P. Gupta and Dr. Majo George, Dean, Faculty of Economics, UEF, focuses on student and faculty exchange, joint research, and executive education. The partnership reflects a shared commitment to advancing globally relevant knowledge and academic excellence.

Blood Donation Drive by Team Bhavishya

Demonstrating a strong spirit of social responsibility, a blood donation drive was organised on March 8th, by Team Bhavishya in collaboration with the Institute Health Centre and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences. Inaugurated by Prof. Devashish Das Gupta, Chairperson, Student Affairs, the initiative witnessed participation from nearly 70 students and faculty members, reinforcing a collective commitment to service and community well-being.



Driving Inclusive Impact Through Braille Kit Distribution Initiative

Reinforcing its commitment to inclusive development, Team Bhavishya organised a Braille Kit Distribution drive on 20th March, 2026. Inaugurated by Prof. Devashish Das Gupta, the initiative supported over 70 visually impaired students in collaboration with the National Association for the Blind (U.P.). Funded through Harmony Cup '26, the effort reflects a meaningful integration of student-led initiatives with community impact.



40th Convocation Ceremony

On March 19th, the Institute celebrated its 40th Convocation, with 807 students graduating across PGP, PGP-ABM, PGP-SM, IPMX, PGPWE, PhD, and EFPM programme. The ceremony featured a Convocation Address by Mr. Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd., while Mr. N. Chandrasekaran, Chairperson, Board of Governors, emphasized continuous learning, adaptability, and the transformative role of AI.

Presenting the Director's Report, Prof. M.P. Gupta reflected on the Institute's landmark achievements, including earning the prestigious Triple Crown accreditation (AACSB, AMBA, and EQUIS) and the launch of courses on AI.



List of Medal winners



Chairman's Gold Medal
J Soundarya, PGP



Director's Medal
Vanshita Goenka, PGP



PGP Chairman's Medal
Sanchita, PGP



**Hari Shankar Singhania Medal
for Best All Rounder**
Gargi Mhaskar, PGP



J Soundarya, PGP



Vanshita Goenka, PGP

IIML 1997 Reshma Sareen Excellence Award for Best Girl Student



Chairman's Gold Medal
Rounak De, PGPSM



Chairman's Gold Medal
Kartik Gupta, IPMX



Chairman's Gold Medal
Abinash Das, PGPWE



Director's Medal
Bini Shrivastava, IPMX



Strengthening India–Canada Collaboration in Innovation and Research

The High Commissioner of Canada to India, Mr. Chris Cooter, visited IIM Lucknow, on March, 18th accompanied by a distinguished delegation including Colonel Stephen Murray, Defence Counsellor; Mr. Rohit Shukla, Political & Economic Officer; and Mr. Soumen Mondal, Trade Commissioner for Investments.

Welcomed by Prof. M.P. Gupta and faculty members, including Prof. Sanjeev Kapoor and Prof. Ashish Dubey, Chairperson, EIC, discussions focused on academic partnerships, research collaboration, and student mobility. The delegation also interacted with 20 startup founders at the Enterprise Incubation Centre, exploring avenues for international expansion.



Advancing Governance Research with the Shashi Budhiraja Chair

On March 24th, 2026, an MoU was signed with the Budhiraja Family to establish the Shashi Budhiraja Chair Professor of Governance. The initiative will focus on developing actionable solutions across rural development, public health, education, and Panchayati Raj systems. By bridging academic research with real-world application, the Chair aims to strengthen governance frameworks and drive inclusive, technology-enabled impact across sectors.



Community Achievements

Mr. Tejas Chaudhari (PGP, Batch of 2013) has been appointed Lead – Quick Commerce (National Account Manager) at Unilever Global. His professional journey reflects the impact of strong leadership, continuous learning, and excellence, inspiring the IIM Lucknow community as he takes on this significant role.



Two research papers co-authored by Mr. Arpan Mondal (PhD Scholar), Prof. Sabyasachi Sinha, and Prof. Dharendra Mani Shukla were awarded Best Paper in the Strategic Management Track and the Sustainability, Responsibility and Governance Track at the INDAM 2026 Conference, Pune. The recognitions highlight the impact of their research on corporate venture capital, stakeholder engagement, and sustainability, reinforcing IIM Lucknow's commitment to high-quality scholarly contributions.



Nishchay Shopurkar and Prashant Singh Chauhan secured the First Runner-Up position at the NTPC Electron Quiz 2025 Grand Finale, held at NTPC Power Management Institute (PMI), Noida. Competing against 639 teams from premier institutions including IIMs, IITs, and XLRI across nine regions, they showcased exceptional knowledge and competitive excellence on the national stage.

Dr. Sushant Kumar, Assistant Professor, Marketing Management, received the Best Paper Award at the 5th International Marketing Conference (iMarC-V) held at IIM Shillong. His award-winning paper on chatbot-enabled tourist engagement highlights the growing relevance of digital technologies in shaping consumer experiences and reflects IIM Lucknow's commitment to impactful, contemporary research.



Team Good Foodies—Anurag G., Harsha Vardhan Donga, Rama Krishna Dokina, and Sharad Dubey—emerged as National Winners of the Swiggy Food for Thought Challenge. Competing against 2,600+ teams and 8,000+ students from 1,700+ colleges across India, they impressed with their innovative, research-driven solution and strong strategic thinking at the national finale held at Swiggy's Bengaluru headquarters.



Mr. Thejas C. Nair (PhD Scholar), Prof. Krishnan Jeesha, and Prof. Priyanshu Gupta were awarded the Best Paper Award at the 5th International Conference on Management of MSMEs (ICMM 2026). Their research on marketing inclusion and consumer responses to LGBTQ+ brand signals contributes valuable insights to the evolving discourse on inclusive marketing and consumer behaviour.



Kanika Kalra (PGP, Batch of 2004) has been appointed Director of Consumer Apps and Platforms Marketing at Google. A distinguished alumna, her leadership journey and contributions to the technology sector continue to inspire the IIM Lucknow community.

Ashish Kumar (PhD Scholar) and Prof. Suresh K. Jakhar received the Best Proposal – 1st Runner-Up Award at the International Doctoral and Early Career Academics Consortium (ICCMRO 2026), organised by MDI Gurgaon. Their research on policy design in online food delivery highlights important health and environmental trade-offs, reflecting the relevance and impact of contemporary scholarship at IIM Lucknow.



Faculty Publications

Area	Authors / Co-authors	Title of the Publication and Journal / Book
Agribusiness Management	Prof. Kushankur Dey and Prof. Kritibardhan Gupta	Co-authored paper: "Small Wins Through Adaptation Governance: Vulnerability, Producer Organizations, and Climate-Smart Interventions" in <i>Journal of Rural Studies</i> (ABS 3)
Decision Sciences	Prof. Deepak Prajapati	Co-authored paper: "The Logistic-Additive Weibull Distribution with Statistical Properties and Regression Modeling for Reliability Applications" in <i>Reliability Engineering & System Safety</i> (ABDC A, ABS 3)
	Mr. Nitin Sahu and Prof. Garima Mittal	Co-authored paper: "Resilient Supplier Selection Under Operational and Disruption Risks: A Multi-Stage Framework" in <i>Annals of Operations Research</i> (ABDC A)
Economics and Business Environment	Prof. Chandan Sharma and Ms. Nitika Arneja	Co-authored paper: "Imported Intermediates and Firm Performance: A Difference-in-Differences Analysis of Matched Indian Manufacturing Firms" in <i>Technological Forecasting and Social Change</i> (ABDC A, ABS 3)

Area	Authors / Co-authors	Title of the Publication and Journal / Book
Human Resource Management	Prof. Anjali Bansal	Co-edited book: "Navigating Stakeholder Dynamics Surrounding Acquisitions" published by <i>Palgrave Macmillan</i>
		Co-authored paper: "Justice in Contingent Work: Exploring Psychological Contract Fulfillment and Engagement Pre- and Post-COVID-19 Through a Social Exchange Lens" in <i>International Journal of Conflict Management (ABDC A)</i>
Marketing	Prof. Krishnan Jeesha	Co-authored paper: "The Silence Effect: Mechanisms Behind Consumer Inaction During Brand Crises" in <i>Journal of Product and Brand Management (ABDC A)</i>
Operations and Supply Chain Management	Dr. Amit Kohar, Prof. Suresh K. Jakhar, and Utkarsh Shivam	Co-authored paper: "Policy Initiatives and Socio-Economic Impact of Sustainable Transportation: A Case Study of Electric Buses in India" in <i>Technovation – The International Journal of Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Technology Management (ABDC A, ABS 3)</i>
Strategic Management	Prof. Gaurav G.B.	Co-authored paper: "Experiential Learning and Portfolio Diversification: Evidence from VC Firms in India" in <i>Asia Pacific Journal of Management (ABDC A, ABS 3)</i>



IIML in the News

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates IIM Lucknow's new programs

<https://education.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/higher-education/union-education-minister-shri-dharmendra-pradhan-launches-iim-lucknows-ai-programmes/128245971>

IIM Lucknow study captures Ram Temple's impact on Ayodhya— 'reverse migration, GST revenue rise'

<https://theprint.in/india/iim-lucknow-study-captures-ram-temples-impact-on-ayodhya-reverse-migration-gst-revenue-rise/2856911/>

IIM Lucknow study shows how farmer organisations drive climate action in Himalayan region

<https://www.livemint.com/focus/iim-lucknow-study-shows-how-farmer-organisations-drive-climate-action-in-himalayan-region-11771743350879.html>

IIM-Lucknow Placements 2026: Highest salary package at Rs 1 Crore; top global firms hire over 550 students

<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/iim-lucknow-placements-2026-domestic-salary-package-ctc-top-global-firms-mba-cat-10549271/>

IIM-Lucknow mulls corporate park to bring IT firms closer to campus

https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/iimlucknow-mulls-corporate-park-to-bring-it-firms-closer-to-campus-101770232623150.html#google_vignette

IIM Lucknow Launches Venture Capital And Private Equity Programme

<https://www.ndtv.com/education/iim-lucknow-launches-venture-capital-and-private-equity-programme-10789396>



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