



# EVERLASTING FLAME

A Newsletter from the  
Vice-Chancellor's Desk

Vol. 15.0

# THIS IS THE SPIRIT OF EVERLASTING

The pioneer of liberal education in India  
With a mission to be at the leading edge of knowledge

A student community of doers  
Supported by a faculty community of experts

Imbibing interdisciplinarity  
Yet encouraging self-discovery

A nurturing and creative environment  
In a world-class campus for diverse interests

A research-oriented approach  
Driving change at the grassroots

Learning beyond the classroom  
Providing real-world outlook & imparting life-long skills

Rooted in Indian context  
Yet global in nature

An experiential journey  
A lifelong association

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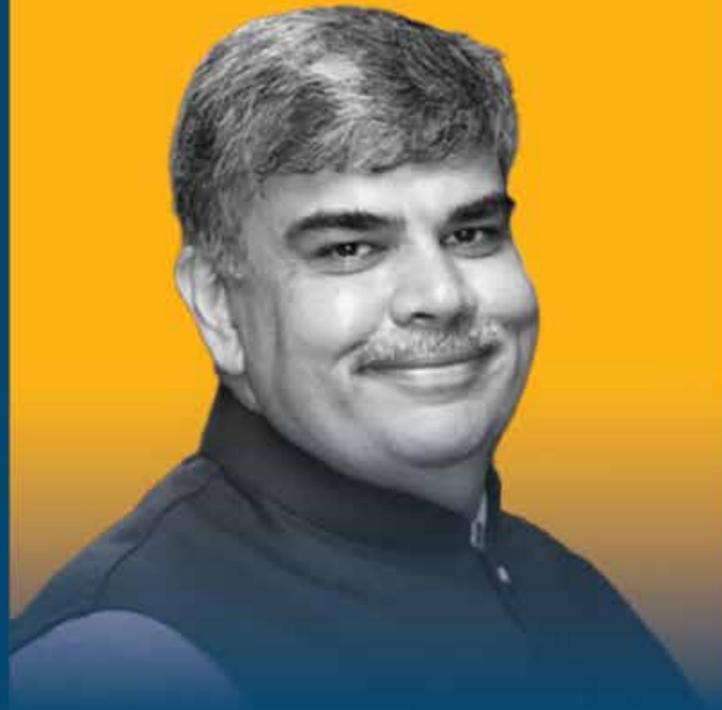
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"We take this opportunity to commend the contributions of our community members that make FLAME a vibrant and evolving space for learning."

## A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to present the 15th edition of Everlasting FLAME, our newsletter that captures the academic, intellectual, and cultural vibrancy of FLAME University. It celebrates the spirit of interdisciplinary learning, self-discovery, growth, and a global perspective that defines us.

Our faculty continue to enrich academic dialogue through research published in leading journals and book chapters, while also contributing insights to media platforms. The campus remained a dynamic space for dialogue and discovery. We hosted several distinguished lectures and conversations with visionaries from different domains, offering students firsthand engagement with ideas that intersect theory, practice, and public life. The hosting of the 6th ISA Council of National Associations Conference was a significant milestone, bringing together sociological associations from across the world.

Our students continued to demonstrate exceptional academic and creative excellence displayed through research presentations at national and international conferences, participation in the media, and commendable performances across sports, cultural platforms, and global forums.

Entrepreneurial energy and experiential learning also remained central to campus life. BLAZE 2025 brought together ideas, innovation, and collaboration through competitions, masterclasses, and dialogue with accomplished entrepreneurs. Beyond campus, FLAME deepened its global and institutional engagement through meaningful interactions, including academic dialogues with international delegations and the launch of knowledge-driven public initiatives such as The Districts Project.

We take this opportunity to commend the contributions of our community members that make FLAME a vibrant and evolving space for learning. As we welcome new faculty members, we remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing a culture of excellence, one that fosters curiosity, critical inquiry, and a deep sense of purpose, both within our campus and beyond.

Best regards,  
Dr. Dishan Kamdar

# FACULTY COMMUNITY

Research

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In the Media

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Other Achievements

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New Faculty Members



**LEADING WITH  
INTELLECT,  
INSPIRING THROUGH  
ACTION**

# RESEARCH

FLAME faculty is a vibrant community of accomplished scholars who actively engage in cutting-edge research. As thought leaders, they constantly strive to push the boundaries of knowledge. Their remarkable publications are a reflection of their intellectual rigour and scholarly accomplishments. These contributions are the foundation of nurturing an environment of inquiry and innovation.



## Editorial: Mobilities, migration, and digital humanities

Published in: *Frontiers in Sociology*

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri**  
Faculty of Sociology

**Prof. Chiranjoy Chattopadhyay**  
Faculty of Computer Science



## Establishing the Asia & Pacific Bioinformatics Joint Congress: a historic milestone in regional bioinformatics collaboration

Published in: *Briefings in Bioinformatics*

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Jayaraman Valadi**  
Faculty of Computing and Data Sciences



## Trends in nulliparous singleton alive births by cesarean section in India: Empirical patterns across public and private hospitals for 720 districts, 2016–2021

Published in: *PLOS Global Public Health*

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Sunil Rajpal**  
Faculty of Economics

**Shreya Ronanki**  
FLAME Alumna

**Nehantha Sathesh**  
FLAME Alumna



## Bricolage theorization through Women Green Entrepreneurship: a pathway for managing entrepreneurial resource constraints

Published in: *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*

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**Prof. Seema Potluri**  
Faculty of Entrepreneurship



## Beyond adoption – factors influencing continuous wear behavior of fitness wearable devices

Published in: *Aslib Journal of Information Management*

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Aakash Kamble**  
Faculty of Marketing



## Contemporary art in Sri Lanka – past, present and possible futures? A dialogue with art writer and curator Pramodha Weerasekera

Published in: *Journal of Visual Art Practice*

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Kunal Ray**  
Faculty of Literary & Cultural Studies

## BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATION



### Design and Development of the Cross-Draft Pottery Kiln with Normal Bricks for Local Potters in India

This chapter, published in Responsible and Resilient Design for Society, Volume 8, reimagines the cross-draft kiln using locally available materials, offering a cost-effective, efficient, and eco-friendly solution that empowers traditional potter communities.

**Prof. Arman Ovla**  
Faculty of Design

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### Assessing the Development of Creativity, Critical Thinking, and Empathy in the Learning Journey of a Design Student

This chapter, published in Responsible and Resilient Design for Society, Volume 7, presents a mixed-methods study of design students, examining how creativity, critical thinking, and empathy evolve across their undergraduate journey. The findings reveal that while critical thinking and empathy strengthen significantly, creativity shows a slight decline in senior years, which illustrates the importance of a curriculum that balances practical rigor with sustained creative exploration.

**Prof. Shamit Shrivastav**  
Faculty of Design

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### Exploring the Entrepreneurial Mindset Among Indian Design Professionals

The chapter, published in Responsible and Resilient Design for Society, Volume 11, examines how designers embody and apply an entrepreneurial mindset in their professional practice. It highlights several key entrepreneurial attributes alongside aspects of the entrepreneurial mindset that remain less developed. The study contributes to a more profound understanding of how design education lays an important foundation, but real-world work environments play a crucial role in strengthening entrepreneurial qualities.

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## IN THE MEDIA

FLAME faculty's expertise extends beyond academia, as they actively contribute to media publications, sharing their knowledge and insights with a broader audience. Regular engagement with the media allows the faculty to disseminate their perspectives, making a significant impact on public discourse and shaping the narratives surrounding critical issues. The faculty community, esteemed as visionary thought leaders in their respective fields, utilizes their expertise to catalyze meaningful change, shaping societal narratives and leaving an indelible impact on critical issues.



### How FLAME University plans to ignite a new era of interdisciplinary education

Published in: Financial Express

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**Prof. Dishan Kamdar**  
Vice-Chancellor



### Trump's new rule may end OPT for foreign students: What US govt papers show

Insights published in: Business Standard

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**Prof. M. A. Venkataramanan**  
Pro Vice-Chancellor

### Are Europe's low-cost master's degrees now beating the Big Four on jobs?

Insights published in: India Today

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### Asrani & the trap of the Bollywood stereotype

Published in: Hindustan Times

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**Prof. Kunal Ray**  
Faculty of Literary & Cultural Studies

### Leela Samson: "There is no prejudice that you cannot overcome"

Published in: Hindustan Times

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### Dinjith Ayyathan's film Eko doesn't play by the rules. And it's a good thing

Published in: Indian Express

[KNOW MORE](#)

### The film is over, but it hasn't left you. 'Eko' is storytelling that plays with the rules

Published in: Indian Express

[KNOW MORE](#)



### Empowering Young: Addressing mental health challenges and building a resilient future

Published in: The Hans India

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**Prof. Sunil Rajpal**  
Faculty of Economics



### Feeding the world, one microbe at a time

Published in: Deccan Herald

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Shweta Rana**  
Faculty of Environmental Studies



### India's C-section hotspots: Three districts where surgery is the norm

Insights published in: India Today

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**Prof. Sunil Rajpal**  
Faculty of Economics

**Shreya Ronanki**  
FLAME Alumna

**Nehantha Sathesh**  
FLAME Alumna

### C-Sections Drop In Public Hospitals But Rise In Private Ones; West Bengal, Telangana See Highest

Published in: News 18

[KNOW MORE](#)



### Hidden fragility of 'friendly' workplaces: Why Indian leaders must rebuild the feedback contract

Published in: Economic Times

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**Prof. Moitrayee Das**  
Faculty of Psychology

### Job hugging and the psycho-economics of modern work: Why purpose is quietly leaving the building

Published in: Economic Times

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### Quitting life at 9: What does it say about our mental health?

Insights published in: India Today

[KNOW MORE](#)



### Bihar economy: The state must fix fiscal and logistics gaps

Published in: Policy Circle

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Barun Kumar Thakur**  
Faculty of Economics

### Andhra's tenant farmers struggle for credit and stability

Published in: Policy Circle

[KNOW MORE](#)

### PM Surya Ghar Yojana is changing how India consumes power

Published in: Policy Circle

[KNOW MORE](#)

### Opinion: Incubating GenZ managers

Published in: TelanganaToday

[KNOW MORE](#)

### Is Urbanization Killing Northeast's Soul? The Cost of the 'City Dream'

Published in: NE Now

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**Prof. Shalaka Shah**  
Faculty of Psychology

**Prof. Shilpa Shinde**  
Faculty of Human Resources

**Prof. Poonam Gandhi**  
Faculty of Sociology

**Prof. Smita Chaudhry**  
Faculty of Human Resources

### Half of urban Indian mothers love being 'supermom', says study

Published in: The Print

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### The hidden cost of being a 'supermom': Study reveals mental strain on working mothers

Insights published in: The Week

[KNOW MORE](#)



### Is "Posting Zero" The Internet's Quiet Return To Privacy, Authenticity And Offline Identity?

Insights published in: News 18

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Sairaj Patki**  
Faculty of Psychology

### #Socialmediare responsibly - Body image, brain changes, fake ids: What under-16 social media use is doing to children

Insights published in: Storyboard 18

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### Explained: How renewed India-Canada ties could boost investment inflows into India - 5 key points

Insights published in: Live Mint

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**Prof. Sanjal Shastri**  
Faculty of International Studies



### Ash cloud sweeps across Indian sky; IMD says no pollution risk for Delhi-NCR

Insights published in: Hindustan Times

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Abhineety Goyal**  
Faculty of Environmental Studies



### DPDP rules will raise compliance bar for AI firms

Insights published in: Economic Times

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Prajish Prasad**  
Faculty of Computer Science



### How University Rankings Are Reshaping Quality, Culture, and the Future of Higher Education

Published in: Higher Education Plus

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Ninad Patwardhan**  
Faculty of Psychology



### Agriculture in the Jain culture

Published in: Times of India

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Pankaj Jain**  
Faculty of Philosophy and Religious Studies

### Sonam Kapoor does it again, champions India's traditional attire in a Tangkhul Kashan-inspired set from Manipur

Insights published in: Indian Express

[KNOW MORE](#)



### Digital payments and health insurance uptake

Published in: Ideas for India

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Reshmi Sengupta**  
Faculty of Economics

**Prof. Debasis Rooj**  
Faculty of Economics



### Learning from centenarians: new study unveils the secrets of longevity in India

Published in: The Hindu

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Prof. Sunil Rajpal**  
Faculty of Economics

**Shreya Ronanki**  
FLAME Alumna

# OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

FLAME faculty garner international recognition and act as significant contributors and esteemed professionals in their disciplines. Their expertise, insights, and editorial contributions help shape the direction of research, influence scholarly debates, and foster collaborations among experts from around the world.



## Honored with the 'Padma Vibhushan Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi Teachers Award'

Prof. Neha Yadav, Faculty of Marketing, was conferred the award by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, former Human Resource Development Minister of India at the 8th Annual Conclave of the Federation of World Academics (FWA) hosted at Le Meridien, New Delhi. The event brought together academic leaders, policymakers, and educators from across the country and served as a dynamic platform for intellectual discourse on 'Technology and Teaching-Learning: Challenges and Opportunities.'



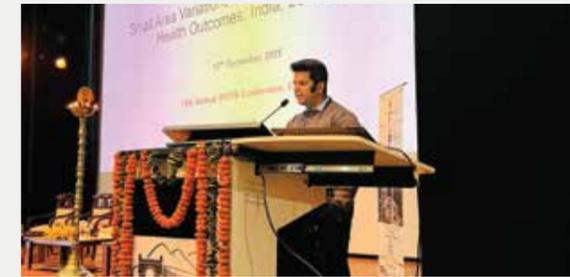
## Paper presented at Indian Institute of Management Nagpur

Prof. Krishna Veer Tiwari, Faculty of Operations & Analytics, presented his research paper at the XXVIII Annual International Conference of the Society of Operations Management (SOM 2025). The paper titled "Determinants of Pre-harvest and Harvest Losses in the Mango Supply Chain" makes a valuable empirical contribution by systematically identifying determinants of pre-harvest and harvest losses in mango orchards, a relatively underexplored area in agricultural operations research. Its use of primary data from Telangana enhances contextual relevance and policy applicability.



## Academic leadership at 13th Annual Conference of the Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA)

Prof. Sunil Rajpal, Faculty of Economics, presented a key academic leadership role across multiple sessions at 13th Annual Conference of the Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA) hosted by IIT Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with the Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF). He was a speaker at the 1st Memorial Lecture in memory of Dr. Mayanka Ambade, where he discussed collaborative research, reflecting on



their shared contributions to public health research in India. He chaired the Technical Session on "Public Health Systems, Policy Evaluation, and Environmental Health", featuring research presentations on health technologies, climate change and agricultural vulnerability, maternal and child health, and environmental health risks. Representing FLAME Centre for Research in Wellbeing and Happiness (CRWBH), Prof. Rajpal also participated in the panel discussion on "Diet and Nutrition in Later Life: Emerging Issues and Intervention Pathways."



## Paper presentation at the 26th European Conference on Knowledge Management (ECKM 2025)

Prof. Neethu Mohammed, Faculty of Human Resource Management, presented her research paper. "Neighbour's Hens Looking Like Turkeys? Understanding the Effect of Envy on Knowledge-Hiding," published in the Scopus-indexed Proceedings. The study examines how workplace envy influences knowledge-hiding behaviors, offering valuable insights into trust, collaboration, and organizational culture.



## Invited as speaker at Mumbai Lit Festival, NCPA

Prof. Ashutosh Potdar, Faculty of Literature, Theatre and Performance Studies was invited to participate in 'Picnic with Playwrights,' a special panel at 'The Literature Live: Mumbai Lit Festival' held at Tata Gardens, National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), Mumbai.

The session, curated by the Bhasha Centre and presented in collaboration with the NCPA, brought together leading voices from India and the USA, placing playwrights and the craft of playwriting at the heart of literary discourse.



## Invited to the 10th edition of the Jabalpur Art Literature and Music Festival (JALAM)

Prof. Ashutosh Potdar, Faculty of Literature, Theatre and Performance Studies, was recently invited to the 10th edition of the Jabalpur Art Literature and Music Festival (JALAM), organized by the Ityadi Art Foundation.

During the event, Prof. Potdar conducted an intensive playwriting masterclass, exploring the structural depths and creative nuances of writing for the stage and delivered a talk on "Contemporary Society and Theatre."



**Invited as a speaker for the National Translation Conference**

Prof. Ashutosh Potdar, Faculty of Literature, Theatre and Performance Studies participated in Bhashavaad 2.0—a national translation conference organized by the Centre for Translation at Ashoka University in partnership with the New India Foundation, held at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Prof. Potdar spoke on “Translation for Theatre/Stage,” drawing upon his experience as a translator, playwright, and editor.



**Research paper presented at 17th Asian Conference on Education (ACE2025), Tokyo**

Prof. Garima Rajan, Faculty of Psychology presented the paper “Can a 4-Week Long Positive Psychology Intervention (PPI) Bring About Psychological Benefits in College Students?” at the 17th Asian Conference on Education (ACE2025), organized by The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) at Tokyo, Japan. The paper explored the impact positive Psychology methods such as mindfulness, journaling, meditation and guided imagery on college students which can be explored through digital mediums. The paper sheds light on the advantages of integrating positive psychology interventions and provides important insights for institutions, welfare organizations and scholars.



**Invited to Annual Conference of Sahodaya School Principals**

Prof. Suniti Vadalkar, Faculty of Design, Art and Performance was invited to speak at the Annual Conference of Sahodaya School Principals in Vadodara, Gujarat.

She addressed the theme “Nurturing Future-ready Minds: Social and Emotional Learning,” presenting practical frameworks for embedding SEL into curriculum design, pedagogy, and teacher development.



**Prof. Pankaj Jain**  
Faculty of Philosophy and Religious Studies

**Prof. Shikha Sharma**  
Visiting Faculty of Philosophy and Critical Thinking

**Research paper published in Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology.**

Research paper, 'Trishagni (1988): A Review Based on the Jewel Net of Indra and the Buddhist Notion of Environmental Sustainability,' draws on Buddhist philosophy to explore interconnectedness, relational ethics, and ecological responsibility.



**Prof. Amarpreet Ghura**  
Faculty of Entrepreneurship

**Best Paper Award at the 2nd International Conference on Innovation for Impact**

Prof. Ghura, received the Best Paper Award at the 2nd International Conference on Innovation for Impact, jointly organized by Confab 360 Degree, New Delhi, and Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Dubai Campus. The award was conferred for his ongoing research, “Occamy Biosciences – Innovations and Entrepreneurial Resilience in a Women-Led Biotech Venture.”



**Prof. Suniti Vadalkar**  
Faculty of Design, Art and Performance

**Invited as panelist for Education 2.0 Conference, Dubai**

Prof. Vadalkar, participated in the panel, under the theme “Reimagining Education: Bridging Tradition, Technology, and Tomorrow.” She contributed her insights as a distinguished panelist for discussions on “Realities vs Utopia, The Importance of Creativity in a Data-Driven World,” and “The Importance of Indigenous Knowledge in the Modern Digital Era.” She was also honored with an award for her initiative WOW (Wonders of Wellness) and for its impact on student well-being.



**Prof. Muhammed Suhail P.S.**  
Faculty of Finance

**Research paper presented at EAEA Convention 2025, Manila, Philippines**

The paper ‘Corporate Governance Disclosures and Financial Distress: Insights from India’ examines the impact of internal corporate governance (CG) quality on financial distress using a self-constructed CG index comprising twenty-six indicators across four dimensions. The study makes several novel contributions, including the development of an India-specific CG index tailored to distressed firms using data from the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).



**Prof. Garima Rajan**  
Faculty of Psychology

**Research paper published in Medical - Clinical - Research Journal**

The paper ‘Mapping Changes in Executive Functioning, Emotion Regulation, and Wellbeing Indicators During COVID-19 Second Wave in India: Investigating Psychological Effectiveness of a Short-Online, Advanced Yoga and Meditation Program’, examined the changes in executive functioning, emotion regulation, and other positive psychological outcomes. The study findings reveal the effectiveness of the program in improving well-being.

# WELCOMING NEW EDUCATORS INTO OUR FACULTY COMMUNITY



**Prof. Pawel Andrzej Atroszko**

**Faculty of Psychology**

Doctorate Degree in Psychology from the University of Gdansk, Poland



**Prof. Abhijit Mazumdar**

**Faculty of Journalism**

Doctorate Degree in Communication & Information from the College of Communication and Information, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA



**Prof. Saswata Guha Thakurata**

**Faculty of Economics**

Doctorate Degree in Economics from University of Hyderabad, India



**Prof. Avani Chaturvedi**

**Faculty of Design**

Master of Design - Design Research & Strategy, Institute of Design, Chicago, USA



**Prof. Gayathri Sivakumar**

**Faculty of Media and Journalism**

Doctorate Degree in Communication Arts from University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

# EVENTS

Guest Lectures

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Webinars, Workshops & Conferences



**MOMENTS THAT SPARK  
DIALOGUE, DISCOVERY,  
AND LASTING IMPACT**

# GUEST LECTURES

FLAME offers a unique experience that is full of constant inspiration. The campus hosts avant-garde thinkers, artists, and business leaders who deliver lectures and engage in interactions that are unlike anything else. This exchange creates an open forum for students to ask questions, gain insights, and listen to inspiring stories.



## Mr. Jay Shah shares insights on the various dimensions of sports

Mr. Jay Shah, Chairman of the International Cricket Council and a visionary leader in global sports administration drew from his extensive experience, including his tenure as Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India to share powerful insights on sportsmanship, dedication, representation, and transparency. Through compelling reflections on leadership and governance, he highlighted how vision, passion, and integrity can shape the future of international sport.



## Distinguished lecture on India's Civilizational Heritage with Ms. Bhaswati Mukherjee

H.E. Ambassador Bhaswati Mukherjee, in her lecture on "India's Cultural and Civilizational Heritage and Soft Power," traced India's rich civilizational journey shaped by exchange, diversity, and inclusiveness. She underscored how these enduring values continue to define India's global soft power. Ambassador Mukherjee also highlighted the pivotal role of the Indian diaspora and emphasized the responsibility of young people in carrying forward this living heritage.



## Mr. Rahul Narwekar engages in an interactive session on Policy and Governance

Mr. Rahul Narwekar, Hon'ble Speaker of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, distinguished public leader and experienced legislator, shared his insights on parliamentary procedures, governance, and public policy. It was a valuable opportunity for the FLAME community to engage with a senior constitutional authority and gain first-hand insights into legislative processes, public administration, leadership, and governance.



## Session with Dr. Hagen Kruse on Jobs Transformation

The Department of Economics at FLAME University and the FLAME Economics Club hosted Dr. Hagen Kruse, Senior Economist at the World Bank's Chief Economist Office for the South Asia Region, for an enriching research talk titled "South Asia Development Update: Reshaping Jobs Through Trade and AI."

In his address, Dr. Kruse shed light on how trade dynamics and generative AI are reshaping labor markets across South Asia, creating opportunities for growth while also presenting new challenges for workers and policy-makers.

## Career Academies

The MBA and MBA (CM) programs at FLAME University integrates Career Academies guided by industry professionals to align business education with evolving industry needs. Students gain role-based, career-relevant exposure through the six academies of Data Analytics & AI, Capital Markets, People and Talent Management, Business & Consumer Marketing, Branding and Communication, and Strategy & Consulting.

These academies combine certifications, practitioner-led modules, industry field visits, and guest sessions, ensuring students graduate with the skills and insights demanded by today's business world.



### **Bridging Classroom to Boardroom: Real-World Brand Marketing Problem-Solving Skills**

**Mr. Chetan Dubey**  
Brand and Marketing Expert

**Academy:** Branding and Communication



### **Understanding B2C: Evolution, Strategy and Execution**

**Mr. Vivek Mathur**  
Retail & E-commerce, Chief Experience Officer

**Academy:** Business and Consumer Marketing



### **Understanding the roles of Talent Acquisition, HR Business Partner, Compensation & Benefits**

**Mr. Jitendra Paturkar**  
Ex-GM, Cummins

**Academy:** People and Talent Management



### **Data in Operations**

**Mr. Atul Gunale**  
Director, SAG Consulting

**Academy:** Business and Consumer Marketing



### **Understanding the different consulting roles in the BIG4 consulting firms**

**Mr. Divyesh Vaghani**  
Manager Financial Services and Project & Transformation Management at EY

**Academy:** Strategy and Consulting  
Capital Markets



### **7 Truths Marketers should know about Media Investments**

**Mr. Bhasker Jaiswal**  
Ex-Chief Operating Officer (Media and Creative) at Dentsu India

**Academy:** Branding and Communication



### **New product development, execution, how to create pod, selling for b2c and b2b products, attributes needed for any profession and entrepreneurs**

**Mr. Darshan Gesota**  
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer at Nityam Software Solutions

**Academy:** Business and Consumer Marketing



### **Mind Over Market: Mastering Risk with Time Series**

**Ms. Sofia Munshi**  
Vice-President, Time Series- Market Risk Management

**Academy:** Capital Markets



### **L&D and the role of AI**

**Ms. Pooja Aman Sharma**  
Ex-Head Operations Training at Bajaj Allianz Life

**Academy:** People and Talent Management



**Where Discovery Meets Intent: The Search Paradigm**

**Mr. Praveen Pandey**  
Founder and CEO of Adroit Consulting and FrameWyse

**Academy:** Branding and Communication



**Omnichannel Shopper Marketing**

**Mr. Jatin Panchal**  
Commercial and Business Transformation Leader

**Academy:** Branding and Communication



**Value creation through HR**

**Ms. Shambhavi Sharma**  
Ex-CHRO at Josh Software

**Academy:** Business and Consumer Marketing

Additionally, students gained insights through sessions conducted by PwC, one of the Big4 firms on the topics of Data to Decisions: How Applied Finance leads to strategy, Future of workplace and workforce, Sentiment and Affinity analysis: Role of analytics in marketing, Networking and AMA, Business Consulting using AI and Agentic AI.



# WEBINARS, WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

From thought-provoking conferences and engaging webinars to enriching discussions, FLAME University fosters an environment that encourages critical thinking and collaboration. The university attracts a lineup of guest speakers who are thought leaders and experts in their respective domains. These distinguished guest speakers provide students with unique insights into cutting-edge research and industry trends, inspiring them to explore new ideas and pursue innovative paths.

## A Multimedia Exhibition: Cultivating Futures

On International Day of Rural Women and National Women Farmers Day, FLAME University's Sociology Area from the Department of Social Sciences hosted Cultivating Futures — a multimedia exhibition & talk spotlighting the invisible backbone of India's agrarian economy: women farmers, laborers & rural workers. Led by Seema Kulkarni, founding member of the Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management, Pune (SOPPECOM) and the national facilitation team member

of Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch (MAKAAM), and Vidya Kulkarni, Documentary Photographer, the event explored gendered exclusions in agriculture, unpaid labor, and the urgent need for policy recognition of women's central role in sustaining food security. The event also featured SOPPECOM researchers Pallavi Harshe, Sneha Bhat, and Prakash Ransing.



## 6th ISA Council of National Associations Conference

FLAME University, in collaboration with the International Sociological Association (ISA), hosted the 6th ISA Council of National Associations Conference, a global gathering featuring delegates from sociological associations across 40 countries. This edition marked the first time the conference was hosted in India, and was made possible with valuable support received from the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

With the theme "Building Resilient Sociologies: Voices, Visions, and Ventures," the conference brought together scholars to reflect on how the discipline can remain responsive amid political, economic, social, and technological transformations.

Through paper presentations, panel discussions, and workshops, delegates explored these themes and exchanged perspectives on the future of the discipline.



## Constitution Day 2025

FLAME Centre for Legislative Education and Research convened leading scholars for Constitution Day 2025, examining 76 years of constitutional evolution. Prof. K. K. Kailash, Department of Political Science at the University of Hyderabad brought expertise in coalition politics and federalism, while Prof. Asha Sarangi, Professor at the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University offered insights into linguistic nationalism both critical lenses for understanding India's constitutional framework. The forum addressed enduring questions of governance, diversity, and democratic institution-building, concluding with a student knowledge competition.



## Research Seminar by Japan-Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The roundtable discussion “Closing Asia’s Climate Investment Gap: Innovations in Blended Finance & Resilience” focused on collaborative opportunities and research themes at the intersection of finance and sustainability. Organized in collaboration with the Japan Scholar Program, it featured Prof. Sayuri Shirai, Faculty of Policy Management, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University, Japan.



## Building real-world software products using OpenSource Generative AI

Vikram Vincent, PhD (IIT Bombay) and founder of Freethought Labs, conducted a three-day hands-on workshop at FLAME University titled ‘Building real-world software products using OpenSource Generative AI.’ Organized by the Q Centre, the workshop introduced students to sustainable AI development through the complete process of building a production-ready FastAPI web application powered by locally hosted Small Language Models.



## Skill-up Saturdays

A curated series of practitioner-led sessions designed to help students stay attuned to evolving industry trends, bridge theory with real-world application, and continuously upskill to meet emerging professional challenges and goals.

### Workshop with Vaibhav Kumaresh

Acclaimed animator Vaibhav Kumaresh conducted a hands-on workshop on ‘Fusing the Medium of Animation’. The session introduced participants to creative storytelling techniques and the expressive potential of animation as a form of communication and social commentary.



**Dr. Ricardo Silvestre**  
Professor of Philosophy  
at the Federal University  
of Campina Grande

### The India Centre Webinar with Dr. Ricardo

Dr. Silvestre presented a lecture titled "Contradiction in Bhedābheda Vedānta: A Paraconsistent and Dialetheic Account of Jīva’s Acintya Bhedābheda Theology." He explored Jīva Gosvāmin’s philosophical framework and its relevance to contemporary discussions on consciousness within the Vedānta tradition. The session aimed to bridge classical Indian metaphysics with modern philosophy of mind, examining concepts of oneness, consciousness, and reality

## FLAME Investment Lab

The programs gathered a diverse group of intellectually curious individuals who shared the belief in the enduring value of investing. It aimed to cultivate a disciplined investment mindset by providing practical tools and frameworks for informed financial decision-making. Promoting the ethos of "invest in yourself," the programs fostered self-directed learning, intellectual curiosity, and critical thinking. Participants engaged in immersive sessions and peer-led discussions to explore the complexities of value investing, connect ideas, challenge assumptions, and develop a resilient investment mindset focused on long-term success.

KNOW MORE

## Behavioral Economics with Sanjay Bakshi



## Next Orbit with Anand Deshpande and Mahesh Chhabria



## BLAZE 2025

FLAME University's flagship entrepreneurship fest, BLAZE 2025, ignited two dynamic days of learning, competition, and community under the theme "Spark. Scale. Sustain." High-intensity events: The Boardroom, Genesis: The BLAZE Hackathon, and Damage Control, challenged students to think critically, defend strategic decisions, and collaborate under pressure. BAZAAR showcased vibrant student-led ventures, bringing entrepreneurial ideas to life.

The panel discussion, "Spark. Scale. Sustain: An Entrepreneur's Journey," featured distinguished leaders:

- Dr. Madhav Chavan, Co-founder and President, Pratham Education Foundation

- Ms. Sweta Mangal, Co-founder, Zenzo HealthCare & Group CEO, MUrgency Inc.

- Ms. Divya Momaya, Founder, MentorMyBoard; Director, Blue Jet Healthcare Ltd.; Member, Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

A masterclass by Ms. Nita Menezes, Founder & CEO, Financially Smart and Co-founder & CEO, MoneyPrastha, offered invaluable insights on finance, personal branding, and entrepreneurial readiness.



# STUDENT COMMUNITY

Academics

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In The Media

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Research Paper Publication

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Research Paper Presentation

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Sports & Extracurricular Activities

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TEDxFLAME University

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Wipro Engineering Student  
Championship  
Remarkable Performance at Wipro  
Marathon



**MARKING MILESTONES OF  
EXCELLENCE,  
FROM CLASSROOMS TO  
ARENAS AND BEYOND**

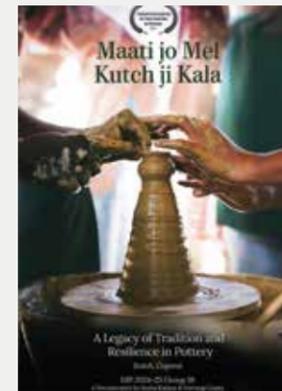
# ACADEMICS

FLAME University students exemplify academic rigor, intellectual curiosity, and a spirit of inquiry. Supported by an interdisciplinary curriculum and faculty mentorship, they continue to expand the frontiers of knowledge.



## Global Leadership Summit 2025

Postgraduate students attended the CNBC-TV18 Global Leadership Summit 2025 at the Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai. The summit centered on the theme “The India Advantage” and brought together policymakers, CEOs, entrepreneurs, economists, technologists, and cultural figures to decode the forces shaping India’s economic ascent. Students gained valuable insights on the opportunities emerging across industries, including markets, start-ups, technology, AI, and real estate.



## Discover India Program documentary wins Prodesco Award

“Maati jo Mel, Kutch ji Kala: A Legacy of Tradition and Resilience in Pottery,” a documentary created by students for Discover India Program (DIP), received the Prodesco Award for Best Student Film at the 3rd Manises International Ceramics Film Festival, Spain. Conceptualized with the DIP group and created by undergraduate students Sneha Katiyar and Purvangi Gupta, under the mentorship of Prof. Arman Ovla, Faculty of Design, the documentary explores the living pottery traditions of Kutch, Gujarat, bringing together cultural research, visual storytelling, and academic inquiry.



**Araav Thakker**  
Undergraduate Student

## Article published in the Oswald Review

Araav published his article “Comparing the Representations of Order and Behavior in James Joyce’s *The Dead* and Samuel Beckett’s *Endgame*” in *The Oswald Review: International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Criticism in the Discipline of English*.

Developed under the guidance of Prof. Ragini Mohite, Faculty of Literary & Cultural Studies, as part of the Modernism in Literature course, the article offers a comparative study of Joyce and Beckett.



**Vrunda Pathare**  
Doctoral Scholar

## Distinguished Paper Award

Vrunda, received the Distinguished Paper Award for her paper titled ‘Manufacturing Trust: Exploring Material Culture of Steel Storage Products’ at Cultures of Design - 14th edition of the International Conference on Design History and Design Studies (ICDHS 14), held at IIT Delhi.



## First Prize for the Best Developmental Paper

Shatakshi Mehrotra, Undergraduate Student, presented a work-in-progress paper at the Sport and Business Conference hosted by the Indian Institute of Management Indore, where she was awarded First Prize for Best Developmental Paper (Innovative Idea).

Her research examines why youth athletes drop out of Indian sports, revealing how weak adult supervision, peer violence, harassment, false promises, mental health stigma, and institutional lapses converge to drive attrition.

# IN THE MEDIA

FLAME University takes immense pride in the exceptional academic contributions demonstrated by its students, exemplified through their extensively covered articles in prominent media outlets. These articles co-authored by esteemed FLAME faculty members, stand as a testament to our commitment to nurturing student potential, underscoring our collaborative approach to academia.



**Faculty co-author: Prof. Moitrayee Das,  
Faculty of Psychology**



**Microshifting: New Work  
Trend Transforming  
Flexibility, Productivity,  
and Work-Life Balance**

Published in: NE Now

**Meher Malhotra**  
Undergraduate Student

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Why Real Stories  
Matter: Lessons  
from Marathi Films  
'Jogwa', 'Sairat' and  
'Fandry'**

Published in: NE Now

**Prutha Honrao**  
Undergraduate Student

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Dark Side of Workplace  
Surveillance: Why  
Datafication Needs  
Digital Empathy**

Published in: NE Now

**Prisha Khanna**  
Undergraduate Student

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Opinion: Missing  
voices in India's  
workplace well-being**

Published in: Telangana Today

**Sai Abhijeet RV  
Ratnaparke**  
Undergraduate Student

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Promotion or  
Purpose: How CSR  
Activities Boost Brand  
Visibility**

Published in: Suger Mint

**Ethan George**  
Undergraduate  
Student

[KNOW MORE](#)



**H-1B visa shock:  
What it means  
for India's jobs  
strategy**

Published in: Policy Circle

**Tanvi Patil**  
Undergraduate  
Student

**Prof. Rituparna  
Kaushik**  
Faculty of  
Economics

[KNOW MORE](#)

## Research Paper Publication



**Chirag Hegde**  
Undergraduate  
Student

**Prof. Pankaj Jain**  
Faculty of Philosophy  
and Religious Studies

**Kantara (2022) through the Lens of Indian Religious  
and Environmental Philosophy**

The paper offers a critical and interdisciplinary reading of contemporary cinema. Drawing from Indian religious thought and environmental philosophy, the study examines themes of ecology, spirituality, and cultural memory.

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Gyanendra  
Tiwari**  
Doctoral Scholar

**Prof. Pankaj Jain**  
Faculty of Philosophy  
and Religious Studies

**The Ecodharmic Significance and Liminal  
Experience of the Kumbh Mela**

This paper examines the Kumbh Mela as an intersection of spirituality, ecology, and ritual, highlighting sacred rivers, sustainable urban design, and ecological wisdom with relevance for contemporary environmental thought.

[KNOW MORE](#)

## Research Paper Presentation

**2nd International Conference by Aatmmanthan Professional Body of Psychologists  
(APBP) on Artificial Intelligence in Behavioural and Mental Health: Innovation,  
Ethics, and Impact**



**Amora Bali**  
Undergraduate  
Student

**Prof. Garima Rajan**  
Faculty of Psychology

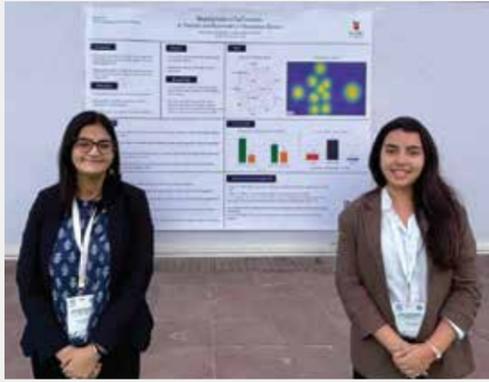
Amora's paper, co-authored with Prof. Rajan, explores the intersection of generative artificial intelligence and youth cognition, focusing on Generation Z and Generation Alpha in digital, media, and advertising contexts. It emphasizes the importance of awareness and the development of responsible policy frameworks to guide GenAI use among younger generations.



**Adya  
Shigehalli**  
Undergraduate  
Student

**Prof. Garima Rajan**  
Faculty of Psychology

Adya's paper co-authored with Prof. Rajan examines the growing integration of AI into mental health care, identifying critical ethical, legal, and societal challenges such as safety risks, algorithmic bias, data privacy concerns, and the absence of informed consent. While acknowledging AI's potential to enhance access and reduce stigma, the paper underscores the urgent need for robust regulations and ethical safeguards to ensure its responsible and equitable application in mental health contexts.



### India Management Research Conference (IMRC 2025), IIM Ahmedabad

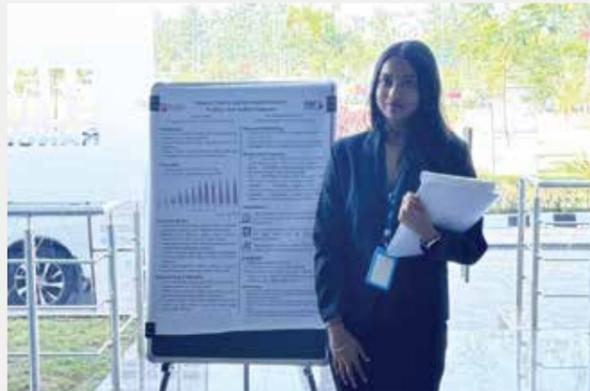
Undergraduate students, Moksha Shah and Shanaya Bajaj, presented their research paper, "India's Gig Economy: Mapping Challenges through a Scoping Review & Delivery-Worker Insights,"

Mentored by Prof. Krishna Veer Tiwari, Faculty of Operations & Analytics, the paper examines India's gig economy through a rigorous scoping review, keyword mapping, and firsthand insights from the delivery workers.

### 10th PAN-IIM World Management Conference (WMC) 2025

Undergraduate students Tanya Arcota and A. Dakshish Sisodiya presented research papers at the conference held in IIM Ranchi. Both papers were co-authored by Prof. Muhammed Suhil P. S. Faculty of Finance.

Tanya's paper "Financial Distress and Investment Decisions: Evidence from Indian Companies" examines how financial distress influences the investment behavior of non-financial listed firms in India between 2016–2024, offering insights into an institutional setting that has been relatively under explored in prior research. Dakshish's paper "From Risk Oversight to Recovery: Evaluating RMC Effectiveness in Financially Distressed Firms" investigates the role of Risk Management Committees in shaping outcomes for financially distressed Indian companies, using panel data from 2008–2023 to evaluate how governance effectiveness can support recovery and resilience.



# SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

FLAME students excel in sports and extracurricular activities, showcasing their holistic growth and diverse talents. Their achievements reflect dedication and a commitment to success. These experiences foster holistic development, enhancing resilience, creativity, and interpersonal skills, preparing them to excel in all aspects of life.



## Debate Society triumphs at NMIMS

The FLAME Debate Society secured First Place at Shatrarth '25, the intercollegiate debate competition hosted by NMIMS, Mumbai. Undergraduate students Tuvyah Koyande and Aadi Sardesai impressed judges with their clarity of thought, coherence, and persuasive delivery.



## Athletes at Pune World Marathon 2025

Demonstrating endurance and determination, FLAME athletes successfully completed the Pune World Marathon 2025, which drew runners from across the country.



## Students excel at Synergy MUN

Undergraduate students showcased exceptional diplomacy and critical thinking as delegates at Synergy MUN, organized by Dhole Patil College of Engineering, Pune. Dhritee Bhardwaj received the Best Delegate Award, while Krishna Manwani earned a High Commendation Award.



## Volleyball Team wins Gold

The FLAME Volleyball Girls Team clinched the Gold Medal at Medthlon'25, held at Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Government Medical College (B.J. Medical College), Pune.

## Badminton Team shines at ACE Championship

The Badminton Team delivered an outstanding performance at the ACE Championship, organized by Suyash Academy, Pune. Undergraduate students from the team won several accolades. Gold medals were awarded to Eklavya Bhatia & Zahaan Baig for men's Doubles, Khushi Bhatia & Ashlesha Dhume for women's Doubles and Eklavya Bhatia & Nikita Suri for mixed doubles category. Nikita Suri & Ahana Shrivastava won silver for the women's doubles category, while Khushi Bhatia & Zahaan Baig won silver for mixed doubles.



## Representing India on the Global Stage

Undergraduate student Niti Desai represented India at the Cheonan World Dance Festival 2025 in Cheonan, South Korea. The festival brought together artists from over 30 countries, celebrating diverse cultural traditions.

The team's performance advanced to the Top 9 finalists, marking a proud moment of cultural representation and achievement.



## Student shines at National Competitions

Ayush Mittal, Postgraduate Student, secured Third Prize in The Berch Nueva Empresa 2025 Business Plan Competition, organized by the Berchmans Institute of Management Studies, St. Berchmans College.

He also won the First Prize at the Startup Conclave organized by the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR), Hyderabad, competing against 320 teams from across India.



## Success at District Level Skating Championship

Tanishq Dugad, Undergraduate student, secured two bronze medals at the 35th Pune District Inline Freestyle Skating Championship 2025, held at the MBB Skating Rink, Pune.



## Third place at Kalantar Poetry Writing Competition

Shalini Ramesh, Undergraduate student secured the third place at the Kalantar Poetry Writing Competition 2025, supported by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture and the University Grants Commission (UGC).

## Stellar performance at IIT Bombay's Annual Festival

Students won multiple accolades, competing with peers from across the country at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay's annual student-driven festival, Mood Indigo.

In the English Solo Singing category:

- Katelyn Wallang undergraduate student secured second place
- Mishka Bhosale undergraduate student secured third place
- Parvi Sachdeva undergraduate student secured third place

Katelyn, Mishka, and Parvi further earned the coveted Golden Ticket to advance to the next round.



## Accolades at the Table Tennis League at Vedant Sports Academy

FLAME Table Tennis Men's Team delivered an outstanding performance at the Monthly Table Tennis League and Knockout held at Vedant Sports Academy, PCMC.

- Anshuman Agarwal – First place in the Men's Singles Open event
- Aadi Agarwal – Third place in the Men's Singles Open event
- Aadi Agarwal and Anshuman Agarwal – Gold medal in the Open Doubles event

## 15th State-Level Open Water Sea Swimming Competition

Undergraduate students, represented FLAME University at the 15th State-Level Open Water Sea Swimming Competition, held in Malvan, Maharashtra, organized by the Maharashtra State Amateur Aquatic Association (MSAAA).



- Ira Bhagwat secured 3rd Place in the 16–18 Years (Female) category
- Zoya Singh (Captain) secured 5th Place in the 19–25 Years (Female) category
- Vedant Agarwal successfully completed the 5 km swim in the 19–25 Years (Male) category

The swimming team has qualified for the National-Level Open Water Sea Swimming Competition.



**Harsh Mittal**  
Postgraduate Student

**Trupti Agarwal**  
Postgraduate Student

**Ayush Mittal**  
Postgraduate Student

## Third position at Nisarg 4.0

Postgraduate students Harsh Mittal, Trupti Agarwal, and Ayush Mittal secured third position at Nisarg 4.0, a sustainability-focused entrepreneurship competition organized by Symbiosis Institute of International Business (SIIB), Pune.

They presented on “Leadership & Sustainability Unbound—From Intent to Impact,” showcasing innovative thinking and a strong commitment to responsible entrepreneurship.

## National Championship Series Elite Nationals 2025-2026

Undergraduate Students Khushi Chopra and Arushi Bhatnagar delivered a stellar performance at the National Championship Series Elite Nationals 2025-2026. Khushi secured first place with her team, Flying Spirits, earning the title of National Champion of India Ultimate and Arushi secured seventh place with her team, Disc Positive.



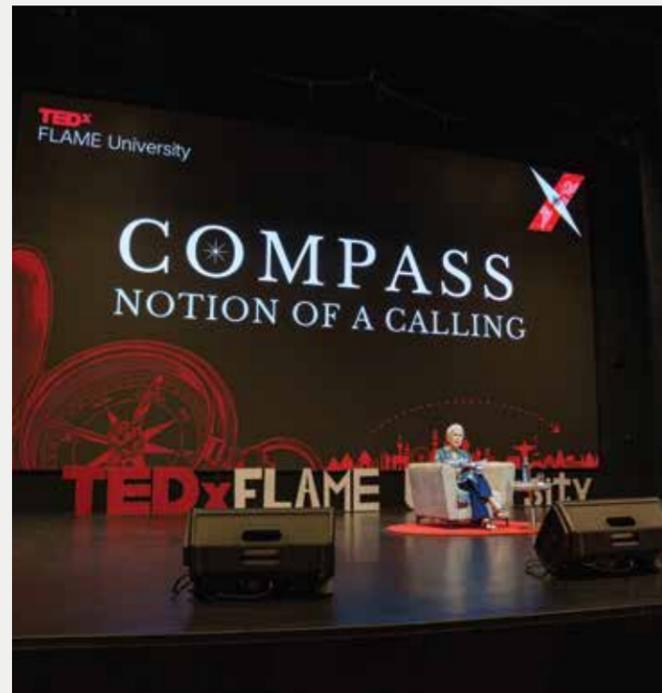
## All World Athlete Bronze Status

Krrish Kumar, Undergraduate student, has been awarded the Ironman All World Athlete (AWA) Bronze Status, securing an India Rank of 3 in his category. Achieving AWA Bronze Status places him among the top-performing Ironman athletes internationally.

He also completed his third Half Ironman at the Ironman 70.3 Goa, competing in the men's 18-24 category and completed the challenging 113 km triathlon in an impressive 5 hours and 47 minutes, securing 8th place.

# TEDxFLAME UNIVERSITY 2026

TEDxFLAME University 2026 was a thought-provoking and enriching experience for the FLAME community. The event featured a distinguished line-up of speakers, including Anu Aga, Padmashree Awardee and Former Chariman of Thermax, Uma Ganesh, Co-founder of 5F World, Skills Alpha, GTT Foundation, and GTT Pvt Ltd, Narendra Goidani, Founder of Life School and the Keep Moving Movement, Krishnan Komandur, CEO of the Adar Poonawalla Clean City Initiative (APCCI), Rajesh Mapuskar, National Award-winning filmmaker and Anusha Attree, Founder of Warriors Without Cause and Girl Up Adira Through their diverse perspectives and lived experiences, the speakers offered insights that encouraged reflection, purpose-driven thinking, and personal growth among students. The event also showcased engaging student performances, adding creative energy and depth to the overall experience.



# ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Alumni Achievements

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In The Media

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Book Chapter Publication

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Alumni Interaction Series



**EMBODYING THE VALUES OF  
FLAME ACROSS BORDERS  
AND INDUSTRIES**

# ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

FLAME alumni make their mark across diverse industries. Their achievements and contributions inspire change and shape industry trends, reflecting the spirit of excellence cultivated at FLAME.



**Brijinder Anand**  
FLAME Alumnus

## Recognized in 40 Under 40 Best Sports Professionals in India

Brijinder, Director of Operations at Spolto, was recognized among the 40 Under 40 Best Sports Professionals in India 2025 by the Indian Sport Management Association (INSMA). A pioneer in grassroots sports development, Brijinder has helped shape India's football ecosystem by building structured youth leagues, residential academies, and scalable community programs across multiple states.



**Prof. Sajith Narayanan**  
Faculty of  
Digital Marketing  
& Communications

**Sakshi Agrawal**  
FLAME Alumna

## Research paper presentation at International Conference

Prof. Narayanan and Sakshi presented their paper titled 'Contrived vs. Genuine Scarcity in Digital Commerce: When 'Only 1 Left!' Becomes a Lie' at the prestigious Global Marketing Conference 2025 in Hong Kong.

## Trailblazer Marketer of the Year Award

G R Abhishek, FLAME Alumnus, received the Trailblazer Marketer of the Year Award at the Millennial Achievers 2025 by Marketing Mind, which celebrates India's brightest next-generation talent in advertising, marketing, media, and business



# IN THE MEDIA

FLAME University takes immense pride in the exceptional academic contributions demonstrated by its alumni, exemplified through their extensively covered articles in prominent media outlets. These articles co-authored by esteemed FLAME faculty members, stand as a testament to our commitment to nurturing student potential, underscoring our collaborative approach to academia.



**Faculty co-author: Prof. Moitrayee Das,**  
Faculty of Psychology



**Stuti Kumar**  
FLAME Alumna

**The Therapy Generation:  
Living in the Age  
of Constant Healing**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Vrinda Tuteja**  
FLAME Alumna

**The Badge of Burnout:  
How India's Startup Work  
Culture Is Failing Its Young  
Professionals**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Muskan Shah**  
FLAME Alumna

**Opinion: Gender bias  
in care work**

Published in: Telengana Today

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Laughing for Longevity:  
How Laughter Clubs  
Boost Mental and  
Physical Health**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Dahi, Diyas and Dopamine:  
How Traditional Rituals  
Support Mental Health and  
Mindfulness**

Published in: NE Now

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**Why India's Mental  
Health Helplines Are  
Failing: A Deep Dive  
into Systemic Gaps**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Logged In, Burnt Out:  
Insights into Right to  
Disconnect Bill**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)

**Holding It Together: Why  
Many Men Experience  
Loneliness Without  
Talking About It**

Published in: NE Now

[KNOW MORE](#)



**Shivani Singhal**  
FLAME Alumna

**Prof. Chaitanya  
Ravi**  
Faculty of Public  
Policy

**Prof. Juhi  
Sidharth**  
Faculty of Public  
Policy

**Why India's fintech boom needs to  
address gender diversity at the top**

Published in: Ideas For India

[KNOW MORE](#)

## BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATION



**Faculty co-author: Prof. Moitrayee Das,  
Faculty of Psychology**



**Muskan Shah**  
FLAME Alumna

### **Local Hearts, Global Minds: Using SEL to Prevent Bullying in Resource-Constrained Establishments**

Published In: IGI Global Scientific Publishing

This chapter emphasizes the ability of social and emotional learning to address bullying in low-resource settings, offering a grounded and empathetic framework that strengthens student well-being and school environments. It adds valuable insight to the field, enriching the growing body of scholarship on SEL and its role in creating safer, more supportive learning environments.



**Aarya Dedhia**  
FLAME Alumna

### **Job Burnouts and Coping Mechanisms among Culturally Diverse Workforces**

Published In: Mental Health Psycho-Social Perspectives

The chapter explores the psychosocial dimensions of mental health in professional settings, examining how workplace culture, interpersonal dynamics, and organizational structures influence employee well-being. It emphasizes the need for holistic mental health strategies that go beyond individual coping mechanisms to include systemic support, empathy-driven leadership, and inclusive policies.



**Faculty co-author: Prof. Garima Rajan,  
Faculty of Psychology**



**Ishika Dhanjal**  
FLAME Alumna

### **Untapping the Potential of Positive Psychology Interventions (PPIs) in Fostering Workplace Well-being in India**

Published In: Mental Health: Psycho-Social Perspectives (Volume 8: Mental Health at Workplace)

This chapter explores how positive psychology reshapes workplace mental health by promoting resilience, optimism, and organizational well-being. It introduces frameworks like Positive Work and Organizations (PWO) and Psychological Capital (PsyCap) to unify research and enhance employee experiences.



**Krisha Balsarkar**  
FLAME Alumna

### **The Role of Entrepreneurial Resilience in Psychological Recovery: Moving Towards Employee Well-being.**

Published In: Mental Health: Psycho-Social Perspectives; Volume Eight: Mental Health at Workplace

This chapter explores the role of entrepreneurial resilience in supporting employees' psychological recovery and well-being amid rising workplace stress and burnout. It highlights how multitasking, task overload, flexible work arrangements, and the blurring of work-home boundaries, driven largely by technology, have intensified employee strain. Emphasising the need for supportive organisational cultures, the study advocates for work-life balance, healthy boundaries, regular breaks, and tailored interventions that help employees manage stress and sustain long-term well-being.



**Prof. Jayaraman Valadi**  
Faculty of Computing and Data Sciences

**Madhav Gupta**  
FLAME Alumnus

### **Deep Neural Networks for ODE-Based Dynamic Optimization in Chemical Processes**

Published In: Data Management, Analytics and Innovation, Volume 3

This chapter highlights how deep neural networks can transform the modeling and optimization of complex chemical processes, combining cutting-edge computational techniques with domain expertise to enable more efficient and adaptive decision-making.

# ALUMNI INTERACTION SERIES

Alumni Interaction Series connects students with alumni who share real-world insights, career guidance, and industry trends. These sessions provide invaluable networking, mentorship, and inspiration, helping students prepare for real-world challenges. Strengthening the bond between alumni and current students creates a supportive network and enhances the learning experience.

## Sales and Service Strategies in Marketing Management

Asit Shah, COO of Bhogilal & Co. conducted three sessions for students, providing valuable insights from both business and customer perspectives. Drawing from over a decade of experience, he discussed the various types of services businesses offer, their implications. For Marketing Management he focused on promotional frameworks drawing from his experience with his work in Oncology, Critical Care, Palliative Care and Medical Devices. In the Sales and Distribution session, Asit offered an industry-grounded understanding of how products move efficiently from producers to customers through well-structured distribution channels. He explained the roles of intermediaries, the strategic considerations behind channel design, and how distribution systems enable companies to enhance reach and competitiveness.



## Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

Abhijit Gujran, Relationship Manager at IndusInd Bank, engaged in an interactive session drawing from his professional experience to highlight how CRM serves as the backbone of service excellence in modern banking, enabling institutions to meet customer expectations for speed, accuracy, and personalized solutions. Demonstrating tools such as CRMNEXT, he illustrated how relationship managers track interactions, identify opportunities, and manage complex banking relationships. The session also covered key banking metrics and practical strategies for customer engagement and included a role-play exercise allowing students to apply CRM principles in real-world scenarios.



## Segmenting the Business Market

Advait Makhija, Head of Marketing at UrbanPiper, a leading global restaurant technology platform, engaged both postgraduate and undergraduate students in interactive sessions. Drawing from his extensive experience in SaaS marketing and startup growth, Advait discussed firmographic, technographic, and needs-based segmentation using real-world examples from the technology and restaurant industries. Through an interactive classroom activity, students applied segmentation frameworks to practical business scenarios, gaining invaluable knowledge about translating theory into strategy.



## Alumni Panel Discussion

FLAME Alumni Karan Kumar, Programme Manager at Laudes Foundation; Madhurima Khadilkar, Senior Development Executive at Dharma Productions and Dharmatic Entertainment; and Manav Kambli, Content Strategist at Elephant Design, engaged in an interactive session with undergraduate students as a part of an insightful panel discussion.

Organized by the Literary and Cultural Studies area, in collaboration with the Alumni Relations Office, the session “Career Pathways for Literary and Cultural Studies: Learn from the Journeys of Our Alumni” offered students valuable insights into diverse professional directions shaped by an interdisciplinary education. Together, the alumni emphasized how the curriculum enabled them to think critically, question deeply, and pursue their unique career paths with industry-ready skills.



## Careers in Big 4: Finance, Strategy & Consulting Excellence

Divyesh Vaghani, Manager at EY, conducted an insightful two-hour session for postgraduate students sharing practical insights into the skills, mindset, and career pathways required to succeed in global advisory environments. Students explored how Big 4 firms drive business transformation through financial expertise, technological innovation, and strategic problem-solving, gaining clarity on multidisciplinary roles in the industry.



## Consulting Beyond the Buzzwords: Skills that Actually Matter

Shashank Sreedharan, Senior Consultant at EY, engaged postgraduate students in an interactive session, exploring the essential qualities that shape successful consultants. Shashank emphasized structured curiosity, active listening, empathy, and the ability to ask the right questions including the importance of the “5 WHYS.” Drawing from his consulting background, he shared that consulting evolves through continuous learning and highlighted that meaningful outcomes stem from conversations, people, negotiations, and collaborations rather than quick, predefined solutions.



## Aligning Financial Strategy with Business Strategy

Keval Shah, Financial Planning & Analysis, Head of Pricing at TransUnion CIBIL Limited, interacted with postgraduate students exploring a practical understanding of how financial strategy and business strategy intersect to drive sustainable growth. His insights highlighted the importance of aligning financial decisions with overall organizational goals for effective decision-making and long-term performance. Keval introduced essential financial planning and analysis tools, conducted an interactive activity as students gained valuable insights into developing industry-relevant skills and best practices.



## Case Odyssey

Deepika Bansal, Senior Specialist, Infrastructure and M&A Programs at Novartis, conducted an immersive case-study competition titled 'Case Odyssey,' designed to challenge students' analytical thinking and business acumen. Her thoughtfully curated case study spanned marketing, finance, strategy, and analytics, giving participants a holistic problem-solving experience. The competition began with 15 teams, of which 7 advanced to the finals. The teams presented innovative approaches, structured analyses, and compelling narratives. As a special prize, the winning team (Team Analytics Collective) earned an exclusive internship with Deepika, gaining real-world consulting exposure and mentorship.



## Integrated Marketing Communication (IMC)

Ravika Laddha, Brand Manager at Chordia Food Products Limited, interacted with students in a session on industry-grounded understanding of how brands create unified, consistent, and impactful communication strategies. She explained how IMC integrates various promotional tools such as advertising, digital marketing, public relations, sales promotions, direct marketing, and social media storytelling. With real-world examples, the session highlighted how modern IMC goes beyond traditional communication to embrace data-driven personalization, content integration, omnichannel engagement, consumer journey mapping, media planning, and creative execution.



## AI in Branding

Karan Solanki, Assistant Manager at #ARM Worldwide, conducted an interactive session on 'AI in Branding' for postgraduate students. Karan emphasized that impactful campaigns begin with strong human insights, with AI serving as a powerful enabler through personalization at scale, productivity enhancement, and smarter content creation. The session offered a valuable industry perspective, enriched by active student participation and creative ideas rooted in strategic application. Discussions further explored evolving AI regulations and copyright considerations, making it a highly interactive and future-focused learning experience.

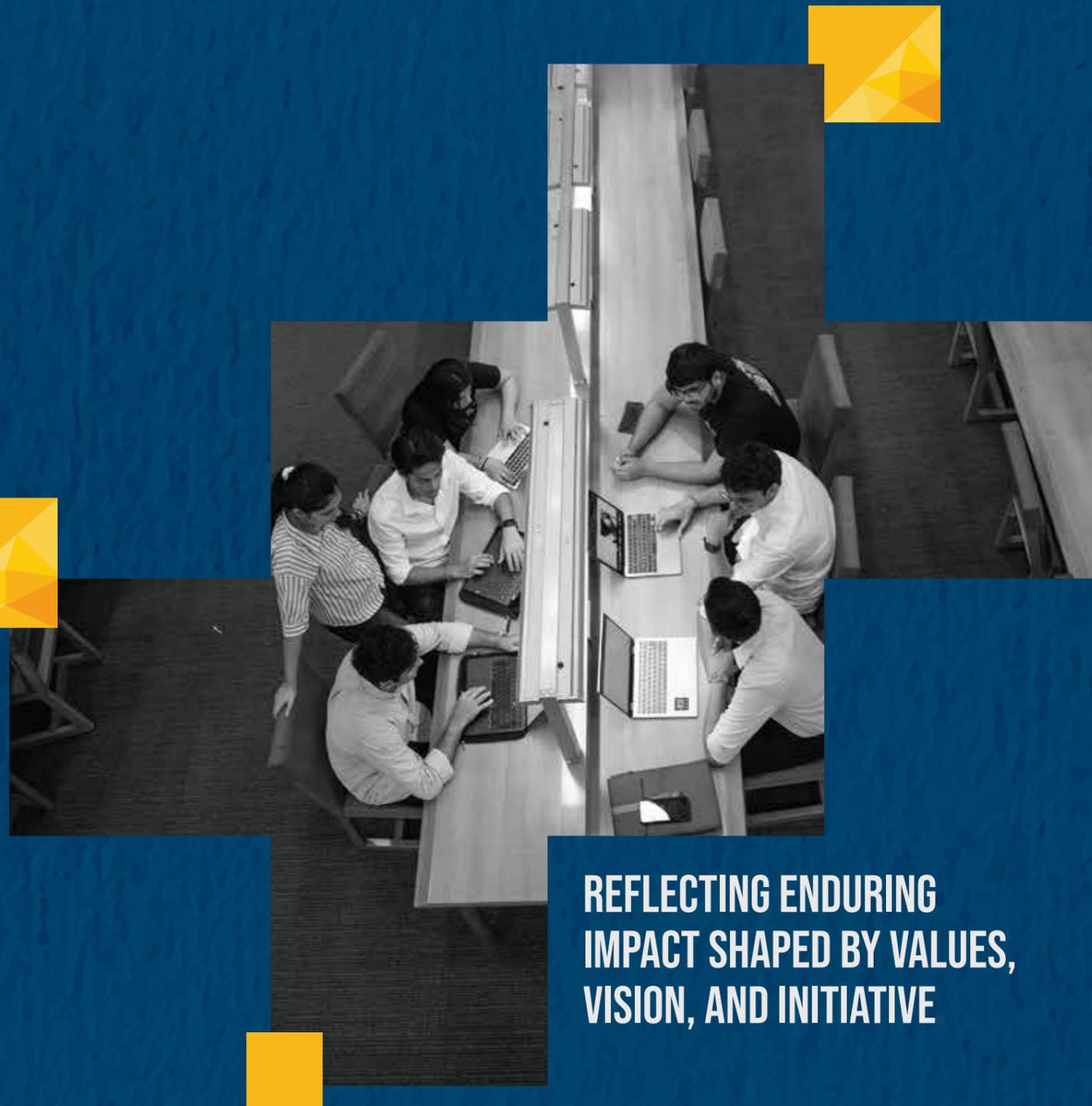


## FLAME Social Sciences Confluence 2025: Alumni Conversations in Sociology, Public Policy, and International Studies

Ankitha Rao, Damayanti Saha, Kabir Dev, Kapish Agrawal, Shweta Murali, and Stuti Mehta visited the FLAME campus, while Arkadeepa Purkayastha, Sanjana Sunder, Shreya Lad, and Smriti Jalihal joined online to engage with undergraduate students during the FLAME Social Sciences Confluence 2025: Alumni Conversations in Sociology, Public Policy, and International Studies. The daylong event featured three intensive panel discussions that brought together distinguished FLAME alumni across Sociology, Public Policy, and International Studies. In the session hosted by FLAME faculty, the alumni discussed their experiences across academic, industry, and policy spaces. Their reflections highlighted how interdisciplinary learning at FLAME refined their analytical skills, shaped their professional outlook, and supported their journeys across varied fields within the social sciences.



# OTHER IMPACT STORIES



**REFLECTING ENDURING  
IMPACT SHAPED BY VALUES,  
VISION, AND INITIATIVE**

## FLAME Centre for Knowledge Alternatives launches The Districts Project

FLAME Centre for Knowledge Alternatives launched The Districts Project, beginning with all thirty-six districts of Maharashtra. This pioneering initiative reimagines the legacy of district gazetteers for the digital era, building a dynamic, continuously updated archive that documents India at its most foundational unit—the district.

Unlike colonial-era gazetteers, the Districts Project is participatory and citizen-driven. Each district page on the portal brings together rich cultural narratives, spanning history, food, art forms, heritage, markets, and language, with rigorously curated developmental data on education, health, agriculture, industries, labor, and the economy. By weaving stories with statistics, the platform offers a holistic, human-centered understanding of India's local realities.

A key strength of the Project lies in its collaborative model, shaped through district fellows, researchers, communities, and users who contribute stories, correct gaps, and enrich the repository over time. As it expands beyond Maharashtra, The Districts Project aspires to become a truly national, living archive, empowering scholars, policymakers, and citizens to explore India's diversity through an accessible, evolving public resource.

We were honored to host Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India, and Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, Chief Economic Advisor to the Maharashtra Chief Minister and CEO of Maharashtra Institution for Transformation for the launch of the project.



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## French Delegation Visit

FLAME University was honored to host a distinguished French delegation from France Universités and the Conférence des grandes écoles, in coordination with the Consulate General of France in Mumbai.

The delegation included Prof. François Louis André Pernot, Counsellor for International Relations at France Universités; Mr. Hugues Brunet, Director General of the Conférence des Grandes Écoles; and Dr. Philippe Maurin, Attaché for Scientific and Educational Cooperation. The interaction enabled a constructive exchange on strengthening academic collaboration, with a focus on student mobility, faculty exchange, joint research initiatives, and experiential learning pathways.

## Data Visualization tools and podcast launched by FLAME Centre for Legislative Education & Research

The India State Stories supported by the FLAME Centre for Legislative Education & Research is a research-driven project that explores how India's states and districts have evolved over time, uncovering the historical, political, and social narratives behind their creation and transformation. The project has recently introduced new interactive visualizations that trace the evolution of India's districts over the last 150+ years, tracking almost every district from 1872 to the present:

District Evolution—a curated series of 10 research articles examining district formation, from colonial India to post-Independence integration, political motivations, renaming, and district inequality.

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District Dashboards—interactive dashboards visualizing district change across three historical phases: 1872–1941 | 1941–1951 | 1951–2024.

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District Tracker—a comprehensive set of interactive visualizations mapping India's districts, subdistricts, and administrative hierarchy.

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India State Stories also produced the multilingual podcast series Drawn and Redrawn. The podcast offers a historical and political narrative of India's external and internal boundary transformations, tracing how the Indian Union was formed, princely states were integrated, states were reorganized between 1940-2020. Each episode is available in English, Hindi, Kannada and Marathi. Across its seasons, the podcast explores:

- Formation of the Indian Union and the integration of princely states.
- Political, administrative, and constitutional ideas that reshaped India's internal map
- Reorganization of states based on language, ethnicity, historical legacies, and developmental aspirations

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