FUEL
FRIENDS UNION FOR ENERGISING LIVES

FSEU
EST.2026
FUEL
SKILLTECH & ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT
FY 2025-26











CONTACT US

Chairmanoffice@fuel.edu.in
www.fuelfornation.com
www.fueledu.in

39,993 lives touched

28 corporate donors | 6 programme streams | 90 schools

Listed on the National Stock Exchange Social Stock Exchange. FUEL SkillTech & Entrepreneurship University officially gazetted by the Government of Maharashtra.

"India's first future-skills and higher-education ecosystem for first-generation learners."

INDEX

FUEL ANNUAL REPORTFY 2025-26

About Us	01
Our Leader	02
Mission, Vision & Inspiration	03
FUEL's Infrastructure	04-05
FUEL Short & Long term programmes	06
Beneficiaries Selection Process	07
At a Glance	08
Six Programme Streams	09-14
Donor Partner Cohorts	15
FUEL College and Business School	16
Edu-Raksha Stem Program for Army schools	17
Milestones & Awards	18-22
Government Endorsements	23-25
FUEL Impact Stories	26-28
Student Voices	29-32
Our Motivation	33-34
Media Recognition	35
FUEL University	36
Looking Ahead: FY 2025-26	37
The FUEL Advantage	38-39
Rewarded to Accreditation & certifications	40
Acknowledgements	41

ABOUT US



FUEL (Friends Union for Energising Lives) is a national not-for-profit organisation dedicated to empowering underserved youth through education, future skills, scholarships, and entrepreneurship.

Founded in 2007, FUEL is registered as a Trust with a PAN-India presence and operates under key statutory registrations including 80G, 12A, FCRA, and CSR-1 (CSR00000051). Headquartered at Forest Trails Township, Bhugaon, Pune, Maharashtra, the organisation has built a strong 19-year track record of bridging the gap between education and employment for young people across India.

FUEL collaborates with leading government bodies such as AICTE, NITI Aayog, NSDC, and MSSDS, and is supported by anchor partners including Standard Chartered Bank and VFS Global. Its operations span Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh, with an international presence across 2 countries, including Indonesia & Uganda.

In FY 2025–26, FUEL was listed on the National Stock Exchange Social Stock Exchange and was recognised as a Champion of Change by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Since inception, FUEL has empowered 12.5 lakh+ youth across India, trained over 3 lakh individuals in future-ready skills, awarded 3,063 scholarships, and mobilised ₹248 crore in impact funding ensuring that no deserving student is left behind due to lack of opportunity.

OUR LEADER

Dr.Ketan Deshpande

Founder, Chairman & CEO, FUEL • Visiting Fellow, JBS, University of Cambridge • Ashoka Fellow

Dr. Ketan Deshpande founded FUEL at the age of 19 in 2007 driven by a singular belief that every young person deserves a fair shot at employment and dignity. What began as a local initiative in Pune has grown, under his leadership, into a national movement empowering youth across India. An Ashoka Fellow and Cambridge Pavate Fellow, Dr. Deshpande holds a PhD in Corporate Social Responsibility. His work has been recognised through the Champions of Change Award, the Mahatma Award, and his inclusion in Business World Education's 40 Under 40.



FUEL (Friends Union for Energising Lives) is a non-profit organisation on a mission to be the guiding light for India's youth building a strong, supportive community that provides essential guidance, access to opportunities, and the tools needed to shape meaningful careers and confident futures.



OUR INSPIRATION

FUEL is rooted in the understanding that India's youth, though expected to shape the nation's future, often lack access to essential information and opportunities. Inspired by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's vision "If a person dies, four people carry him. But if the young generation lives and works for the nation, many will walk with them" FUEL strives to empower first-generation learners, democratise future skills, and ensure no deserving student is left behind due to lack of opportunity.

VISION

We have a vision to empower the youth and enable them to become the torch bearers of tomorrow.

In FY 2025 - 26, this vision moved closer to reality with the University approval received from the Government of Maharashtra to establish FUEL Skill University India's first university focused exclusively on future skills and first-generation learners.

MISSION

01 To be the guiding light for the future of youth by creating a strong, supportive community.

02 To provide essential information, mentorship, and access to career opportunities for young individuals.

03 To ensure every student has equal access to education and career growth opportunities.

FUEL's Infrastructure



Smart Classrooms



Computer Labs





Smart Digital Library



Auditorium

Integrated co-working Campus Model

Where Education Meets Industry

10-Floor Integrated Campus Model



INDUSTRY INTEGRATION

- Floor 10: Executive Space & Collaboration
- Floor 9: Industry Partners & Projects
- Floor 8: Innovation Lab & Incubation
- Floor 7: Co-working Space - Zone B
- Floor 6: Co-working Space - Zone A
- Floor 5: School of Commerce & Humanities
- Floor 4: Employability & Entrepreneurship
- Floor 3: School of Digital Technology & Industry 4.0 Skills (AI, Data)
- Floor 2: School of Renewable Energy & Green Tech
- Floor 1: School of Future Skills

Building Agency for Career Choices

Dedicated learning spaces for future skills training including electric mobility, green technology, AI, digital platforms, and entrepreneurship development with industry-aligned curriculum.

Industry Floors (6-10)

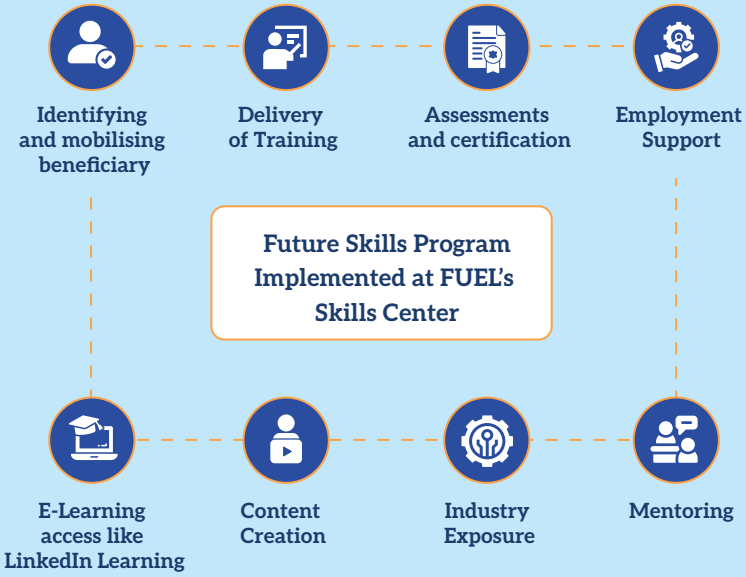
Co-working ecosystem where students intern and work alongside industry partners on live projects, creating seamless transition from education to employment.

Key Infrastructure Metrics

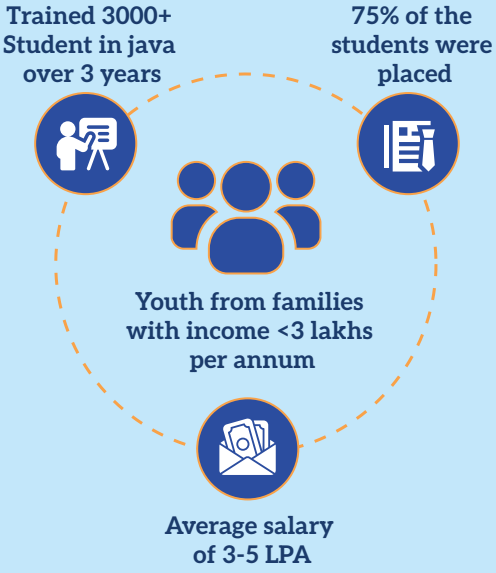
12,000 Sq. Ft. Dedicated Area | 400 Co-working Seats

Short Term Program

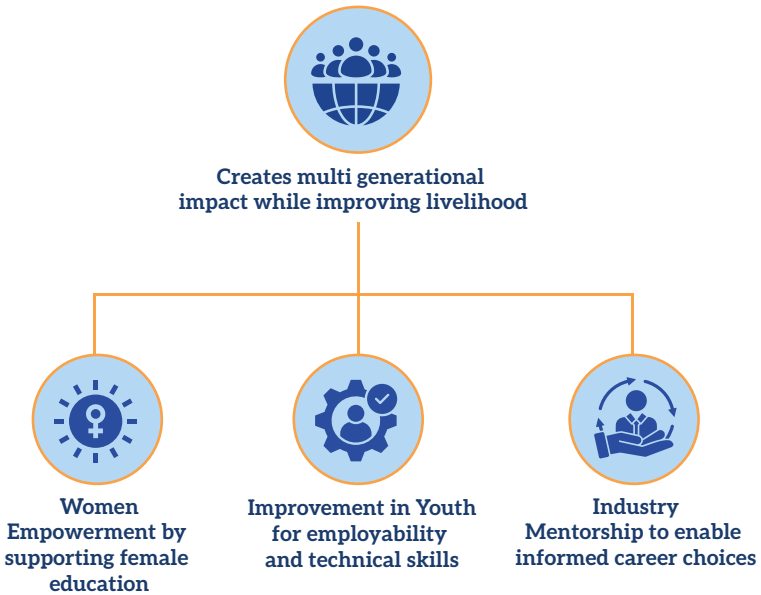
Implementation by FUEL



Outcomes



Long Term Program



PGDM in General Management at
FUEL Business School (FBS)

Support Provided:
- Tuition fee
- Courseware
- Internship and Placement Assistance

Types of Beneficiaries:
Female students from economically Weaker section (EWS)

Selection Process:
Entrance Test : Student Interview

Eligibility criteria:
- Entrance Test Score for 1 year & CGPA to be maintained upto 8 and above for continuation for every semester
- Annual family income less than 5,00,000

The Selection Process for the Beneficiaries



Stage 1
Aptitude test



Stage 2
Screening test



Stage 3
Interviews



Stage 4
Document Verification



Stage 5
Home visits



Stage 6
Finalization

AT A GLANCE
FY 2025–26

Every commitment honoured. Every life counted.

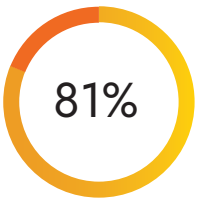
Impact Overview

Metric	FY 2025–26	Growth / Note
Lives Touched	39,993	Across 6 programme streams
Corporate Donors	28	Every rupee committed, every target met
Programme Streams	6	School Development, Mechanic Skilling, Scheme Empowerment, Future Skills, Career Counselling, Scholarships
Schools Partnered	90	Largest reach via Jyoti / School Development
Funds Received	100%	Full disbursement against committed corpus
Cumulative Reach	12.5 Lakh+	Youth guided and mentored

FUEL Listed on the National Stock Exchange Social Stock Exchange on 30 March 2026 reinforcing transparency, scalability, and governance standards.

Inaugurated with Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Chairman of Cipla - Dr. Yusuf Hamied School of Science, a permanent institutional endowment expanding FUEL's academic portfolio into scientific section

FUEL's programmes in FY 2025–26 focused on holistic youth development through School Development, Future Skills, Career Counselling, and Mechanic Skilling bridging the gap between education and employability while preparing youth for industry readiness. Scholarships and Scheme Empowerment initiatives further ensured inclusion by removing financial and informational barriers, enabling deserving students to continue their education and career journeys.



Focused Programme Reach

Majority of outreach delivered through JYOTI / School Development, Mechanic Skilling, and Scheme Empowerment.



Funds Utilisation

All committed funds fully deployed, ensuring complete accountability and impact delivery.

SIX PROGRAMME STREAMS

Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 1 - School Development (Jyoti)	
Beneficiaries	12,935 students
Geographic reach	90 schools
Lead partners	Larsen & Toubro
Programme model	Teacher capacity-building and innovation/entrepreneurship curriculum delivered into government and aided schools, anchored by L&T's CSR commitment in Maharashtra.





Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 2 - Mechanic Skilling	
Beneficiaries	9,600 mechanics trained
Programme focus	2-Wheeler Mechanic Skilling
CSR partner	Castrol
Programme model	Vocational upskilling for informal roadside two-wheeler mechanics modern diagnostics, maintenance techniques, and workshop safety. Continues a multi-year Castrol partnership.





Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 3 - Scheme Empowerment	
Beneficiaries	9,800
Programme focus	Government scheme linkage and financial inclusion
Lead partners	Bajaj Holdings · Haqdarshak
Programme model	Connecting eligible beneficiaries to government welfare schemes, financial inclusion programmes, and social entitlements through structured outreach and on-ground assistance.





Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 4 - Future Skills	
Beneficiaries	5,458 youth
Donor partners	14 corporate donors
Programme focus	Digital and workplace readiness training; Train. Assess. Deploy.
Training domains	Full Stack Java · AI with Python · AWS / Cloud · DevOps · Aptitude Soft Skills
Delivery	Blended classroom + LMS (LinkedIn Learning, Coursera) AMCAT-validated employability assessments





Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 5 - Career Counselling & STEM Outreach	
Beneficiaries	2,000 youth counselled
Lead partners	Wells Fargo
Programme model	Structured career guidance aptitude assessments, career pathway counselling, higher-education planning, and employability readiness workshops. Includes the Wells Fargo Talent Search Programme delivered to 2000 students across Army Public Schools (APS Bangalore, APS Chennai, APS RK Puram Secunderabad), with STEM bootcamps and industry exposure sessions.





Every donor mapped to a programme. Every programme to outcomes.

Stream 6 - Scholarships	
Beneficiaries	171 scholars supported
Donor partners	5 corporate donors
Lead partners	LTIMindtree · Fujitsu · AXA · Striders Impex · Kalpa Power
Programme model	Merit and need-based scholarships supporting first-generation learners through higher education primarily through FUEL Business School (BBA & PGDM cohorts).





Future Skills — donor partner cohorts

Donor partner	Cohort	Training domain
Capgemini Digital Academy	*1,000*	*Full Stack Java*
Yes Foundation	*1,000*	*Java · AI with Python*
SBI Foundation	*1,000*	*Future skills*
Amazon India	*450*	*Cloud · AWS skilling*
Syngenta	*340*	*Digital + livelihoods*
VFS Global	*220*	*Java · Aptitude*
CGI	*220*	*Future skills*
bp Business Solutions	*200*	*AWS · Java*
Principal Global Services	*111*	*AWS · Java*
Fujitsu Consulting	*Cohort*	*Domain-specific*
Broadridge	*Cohort*	*Domain-specific*
AXA Global	*Cohort*	*DevOps (100% female cohort)*
VF Worldwide Holdings	*Cohort*	*Domain-specific*
Jabra · RR Kabel Foundation	*Cohort*	*Domain-specific*

LMS engagement: *24,800+ courses across cohorts on LinkedIn Learning · Average 15-20 hours per learner · AMCAT-validated employability assessments deployed across all Future Skills cohorts.*

Spotlight Legacy Naming Grant: *Dr. Yusuf Hamied (Chairman, Cipla) — Dr. Yusuf Hamied School of Science. A permanent institutional endowment naming grant. The School of Science was launched at the FUEL campus during FY 2025-26, expanding the academic portfolio into scientific education.*



ACTIVE COHORTS
FY 2025-26

Higher Education Empowerment Programme: 100 BBA students (64% female), all progressed to final year with tuition, training tools & materials.

"Empowering first-generation learners with skills, confidence, and opportunities to succeed in higher education and beyond."

Higher education at FUEL is more than a milestone it is a mission to empower first generation learners and underserved youth with knowledge, skills, and values. FUEL delivers BBA and MBA programmes to underserved cohorts under CSR scholarship support.

Students at FBS are exposed to a blend of academic learning and real-world industry engagement. Programmes are designed to build strong foundations while integrating soft skills, personality development, and practical applications to enhance employability. The curriculum is further strengthened through continuous mentoring, hands-on learning experiences, and exposure to evolving industry requirements.

Key highlights include the first-ever convocation ceremony, industry sessions with leaders like Dr. Yusuf Hamied, international exposure through academic interactions, and full participation in internships, live projects, and student-led events. These experiences not only enhance practical understanding but also foster confidence, leadership, and a collaborative mindset among students.

EDU-RAKSHA

DEFENCE SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Career guidance, academic coaching, and STEM bootcamps for children of Army personnel. Anchored by the Wells Fargo Talent Search Programme, with cumulative reach of 26,262 students across the programme's lifetime.

FY 2025–26 Anchor Cohort

Students supported: 2000

APS schools covered:

APS Bangalore (Karnal Road) · APS Chennai · APS RK Puram (Secunderabad)

Subject coverage:

Mathematics · Science · Social Science · English

Cohort profile (FY 2022 reference):

56% female / 44% male; 76% aspiring Science stream

Programme Components

Career Guidance - 1:1 counselling and workshops on resumes, interviews, and professional networking.

Academic Coaching - board-exam preparation across the four core subjects, with regular assessments to identify and address learning gaps.

STEM Boot Camps - hands-on workshops fostering teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving.

Industry Awareness Sessions - Q&A with industry professionals; corporate volunteering and field exposure.

2000

Students Supported



THE YEAR IN HEADLINES

Milestones that redefined FUEL's institutional trajectory.



FUEL NSE Listing

Listed on the NSE Social Stock Exchange on 30 March 2026, strengthening transparency, governance, and scalability.



School of Science Adopted

Inaugurated with Dr. Yusuf Hamied, the Dr. Yusuf Hamied School of Science expands FUEL's academic portfolio through a permanent institutional endowment.



Recognised as Private University

State Gazette notified on 13 April 2026 fully recognised FUEL Skilltech & Entrepreneurship University.

Milestones that redefined FUEL's institutional trajectory in FY 2025-26

1 NSE Social Stock Exchange listing

Listed on the National Stock Exchange Social Stock Exchange on 30 March 2026 reinforcing transparency, scalability, and governance standards.













Milestones that redefined FUEL's institutional trajectory in FY 2025-26

2 First-ever Convocation, FUEL Business School

Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari as Chief Guest, September 2025 celebrating the institution's first graduating cohort.









Milestones that redefined FUEL's institutional trajectory in FY 2025-26

3 School of Science launched

Inaugurated with Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Chairman of Cipla - Dr. Yusuf Hamied School of Science, a permanent institutional endowment expanding FUEL's academic portfolio into scientific education.









AWARDS & RECOGNITION

FY 2025-26



CHAMPION OF CHANGE

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India



MAHATMA AWARD

Conferred on FUEL for institutional contributions to society



MAHARASHTRA MAHABRANDS AWARD

Presented by Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra



SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE

Mr Ketan Deshpande
G-1102 Amrut Ganga
Singhgad Road
Pune-411051
Maharashtra
India

12 June 2017

Dear Mr Deshpande

Many congratulations on being selected as a Pavate Fellow. Your Pavate Fellowship is for a four month period from 1 September 2017 to 31 December 2017. It would be very helpful if you could let us know your travel plans, and particularly your confirmed arrival date and estimated time of arrival, once these have been finalised. Although your appointment is from 1st September, University life doesn't really get going until mid-September so you may prefer to arrive slightly later in the month and stay until mid-December.

CAMBRIDGE PAVATE FELLOWSHIP

Cambridge Judge Business School Pavate Conference



HUMAN RIGHTS EXCELLENCE

Recognising democratisation of access to quality education



LOKMAT HONOURS (MULTIPLE)

Lokmat Awards leadership, innovation, social impact

GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONAL ENDORSEMENTS

Engagements that signal FUEL's credibility at the highest levels of policy, industry, and academia

Prime Minister's Office

Champion of Change



FUEL was recognised as a Champion of Change by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi — one of the country's highest honours for social innovation. This recognition reflects 18 years of consistent, verified impact delivered to India's most underserved youth, and affirms FUEL's position as a national movement, not merely a regional NGO.

Union Cabinet

FBS Convocation



The first-ever FUEL Business School Convocation, held in September 2025, was graced by Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari as Chief Guest. For every first-generation graduate on that stage, the ceremony represented not just an academic milestone — but the moment their family's story changed forever.

External Affairs

Dr. S. Jaishankar



India's Minister of External Affairs, Dr. S. Jaishankar, was present at the PhD conferment of FUEL Founder Dr. Ketan Deshpande — a moment that speaks to the national significance of FUEL's leadership and the respect it commands across the highest levels of Indian governance.

Engagements that signal FUEL's credibility at the highest levels of policy, industry, and academia

Maharashtra State

MahaBrands Award



FUEL was presented the Maharashtra MahaBrands Award by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra — recognising the organisation as one of the state's most impactful and credible institutions. The award reflects FUEL's deep roots in Maharashtra and its sustained contribution to the state's youth development ecosystem.

Maharashtra State

Ganesh Festival Scholarships



In a gesture that united cultural tradition with social purpose, Hon'ble Shri Chandrakant Patil, Maharashtra's Education Minister, supported FUEL's Ganesh Festival scholarship initiative — providing 100 students with the financial support needed to continue their education. Education, at its best, is a celebration.

Industry Pharma

Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Cipla



Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Chairman of Cipla and one of India's most respected industrialists, inaugurated the Dr. Yusuf Hamied School of Science at the FUEL campus — a permanent institutional endowment that carries his legacy into the lives of thousands of young scientists who will study here for generations to come.

Engagements that signal FUEL's credibility at the highest levels of policy, industry, and academia

Academia

Cambridge, Dr. Jaideep Prabhu



Dr. Jaideep Prabhu of Cambridge University launched his book at the FUEL campus on 25 March 2026 — bringing one of the world's leading academic institutions into direct conversation with FUEL's mission. It is a reminder that the most important ideas in global business and social innovation find a natural home at FUEL.

Industry Dialogue

Ajay Piramal & Shashwat Goenka



FUEL's Founder represented the organisation at the Oxford India Forum alongside industry leaders including Ajay Piramal and Shashwat Goenka. These conversations — at the intersection of business, policy, and social purpose — shape the partnerships and thinking that drive FUEL's next chapter.

Global

World Economic Forum, Davos



FUEL Business School was represented at the World Economic Forum in Davos — placing a Pune-based youth empowerment institution on the same stage as the world's most influential leaders in business and policy. It signals clearly: FUEL is not just building India's future. It is part of the global conversation about what that future looks like.

Realizing Potential FUEL's Grassroots Impact









I am Shraddha Kasar from Pune, Maharashtra, and I completed my PGDM at FUEL. A few years ago, I was sitting exactly where many students sit today — full of dreams but with no idea how to chase them. That's when FUEL came into my life and gave me direction, confidence, and most importantly, opportunity. Today, I work at FUEL as an Associate Manager, handling CSR projects and proposals. I recently wrote the proposal for the School of Science, which has now been officially adopted by Dr. Yusuf Hamied, Chairman of Cipla — and working closely with him taught me that real leadership is about purpose, not position. So far, I've helped over 100 students secure scholarships, but my vision is to build many more Shraddhas. I was once given an opportunity that changed my life. Today, it is my responsibility to create that opportunity for others.

WATCH MY JOURNEY

Shraddha Kasar

Realizing Potential FUEL's Grassroots Impact







I am Nikita Vyavhare, originally from Ahmednagar. My father was our sole breadwinner, working at a petrol pump under heavy debt, which eventually forced us to relocate to Pune and even sell our home. When we couldn't afford college tuition, I gave up on studying further—until my father discovered the FUEL scholarship through the Dagdusheth Halwai Trust. FUEL stepped in with 100% support, turning my despair into Hope. Despite my initial nervousness, the trainers helped me build immense confidence and clear my doubts. Today, I am proud to have cracked three rounds of interviews to secure a job at Syngenta as a FinOps Engineer. I am deeply grateful to the FUEL team for empowering me to support my family and work toward buying our home back.

WATCH MY JOURNEY

Nikita Vyavhare

Realizing Potential FUEL's Grassroots Impact









I am Kalyani Marathe, from the village of Manjai Asani. My parents worked tirelessly on the farmlands, wishing for me to study and stand on my own feet. When my father passed away, severe financial strain put post-graduate education completely out of reach—until I discovered the FUEL (Friends Union for Energising Lives) scholarship. With 100% support covering training, books, housing, and meals, FUEL turned my dreams around. I overcame severe public speaking anxiety and transformed my communication skills. Today, I am proud to have cracked the selection process at a global multinational, working as an Analyst in Procurement Operations at Syngenta. I am deeply grateful to the FUEL team for this life-changing opportunity.

WATCH MY JOURNEY

Kalyani Marathe

VOICES FROM THE COHORT

First-generation learners. Now corporate professionals.



Hemal Kulkarni

Hometown: Jalgaon • Education: B.Tech Electronics & Telecommunication, SPPU • Programme: Future Skills (Core Java) • Outcome: Data Analyst at Capgemini

Hemal joined the Full Stack Java training programme to enhance her technical, logical-thinking, and communication skills, alongside the confidence to navigate corporate environments. The programme provided hands-on industry exposure and bridged the gap between academic theory and workplace expectations.

VOICES FROM THE COHORT

First-generation learners. Now corporate professionals.



Devyani Sahebrao Pawar

Hometown: Satara • Education: Graduate, Savitribai Phule Pune University • Programme: Future Skills (Full Stack Java) • Outcome: Software Engineer at Capgemini

From a small-business family, Devyani recognised the importance of industry-relevant skills early. Through structured training, mock interviews, and continuous mentoring, she transitioned from graduate to industry-ready professional.a

VOICES FROM THE COHORT

First-generation learners. Now corporate professionals.



Arti Akke — FUEL Business School

Course: BBA International Business, SPPU framework

"Coming from a background where finances were not always stable, getting this opportunity through FUEL has truly changed my life. It didn't just help me continue my education — it helped me believe in myself and my dreams. I'm truly thankful to FUEL for supporting students like me and to Fujitsu for making this possible."

VOICES FROM THE COHORT

First-generation learners. Now corporate professionals.



Shambala Bansi Yadav

Background: First-generation learner from a farming family in Maharashtra

"As a first-generation learner, I broke barriers by becoming the first in my family to pursue a college degree. With the support of FUEL and LTIMindtree, I am now on a promising path toward professional success — building confidence through group activities, class discussions, and practical sessions across Financial Literacy, Business Communication, and Principles of Marketing."

Their Words. Our Motivation.

Endorsements from India's Esteemed Leaders for a Future-Ready Youth.

"I am pleased to learn about the Bhoomi Poojan of FUEL Center of Excellence campus at Kharadi, Pune. The creation of new infrastructure brings with it fresh energy and inspiration. This initiative of FUEL to provide career guidance and impact skilling to the youth is a noble one. May the endeavour to provide guidance to the youth reach out, in particular, to the poor, needy, and disadvantaged sections of the society."



Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

Ketan Deshpande and his team's initiative has transformed career guidance in Maharashtra, providing invaluable insights to countless students, including 63,000 from Army Public Schools who will now benefit from enhanced career counselling and expert lectures.



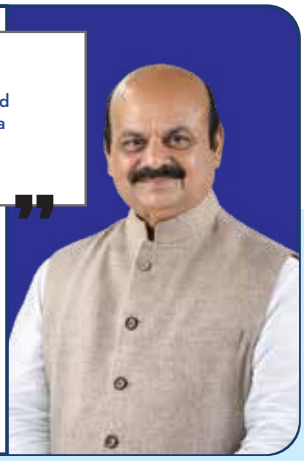
Shri Devendra Fadnavis
Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra

FUEL has shown a model of social enterprise which is sustainable and scalable, impacting globally. FUEL has won many awards in India and globally. I wish Ketan and Santosh from FUEL to work hard for the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.



Shri Nitin Gadkari
Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India

FUEL is poised to lead the way in transforming India's youth into a skilled workforce, driving our nation toward a successful future in technology and innovation.



Shri Basavaraj Bommai
Chief Minister of Karnataka

FUEL has been a guiding light for the future of our youth, empowering them to become the torchbearers of tomorrow and promoting the Skill India mission, which is vital for transforming India into a global leader in innovation and skills.



Shri Piyush Goyal
Cabinet Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

FUEL is transforming the lives of Indian youth by equipping them with essential skills and guiding them towards the right career choices in a rapidly changing digital landscape.



Shri Prahlad Joshi
Minister of Coal & Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of India

Their Words. Our Motivation.

Endorsements from India's Esteemed Leaders for a Future-Ready Youth.

FUEL has been instrumental in creating a future-ready workforce, ensuring that the evolving nature of skills aligns with technological advancements to elevate India to the next level.



Mr. Amitabh Kant
Chief Executive Officer,
NITI Aayog, Govt. of India

FUEL has touched more than a million young lives through their work in education and skill development, making upskilling accessible to those who need it the most, the underserved and the underprivileged. I salute their efforts.



Mr. C.P. Gurnani
MD & CEO, Tech Mahindra Limited

The youth bulge only pays dividends if the young are educated, trained, and employed productively, which is why programs like FUEL are so vital to India's future.



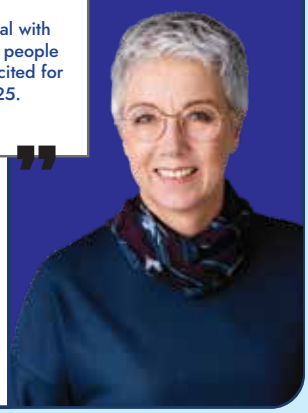
Mr. David J. Ranz
U.S. Consul General, Mumbai

Over the past ten years, we understand that FUEL has helped more than one million youth to aspire to and achieve successful careers in India and beyond. Best wishes to FUEL towards their goal to impact ten million youth.



Ms. Kathleen Ryan Muffson
Director, Global Corporate Citizenship & President, Pitney Bowes Foundation

Congratulations on achieving your goal with FUEL! Impacting over a million young people is an incredible milestone, and I'm excited for your plans to reach ten million by 2025. Wishing you all the best!



Ms. Martina Merz
CEO, Thyssenkrupp

Through a proud digital inclusion partnership, Capgemini and FUEL's Future Skills Institute are equipping over 2,000 youth with essential IT skills to break the cycle of poverty and secure employment. This impactful collaboration actively supports FUEL's ambitious goal to empower 10 million young lives by 2030.



Mr Anurag Kumar
VP and CSR Leader,
Capgemini

Media Recognition & Thought Leadership



Change Makers- NDTV

SCAN TO WATCH

NDTV



Future Ready with FUEL- CNBC TV18

SCAN TO WATCH

CNBC TV18



ABP Majha

SCAN TO WATCH

abp माझा



Recognized by Sakal

SCAN TO WATCH

सकाळ

FUEL UNIVERSITY- A NEW CHAPTER

From DPR submission to State Gazette · the headline event of FY 2025–26.

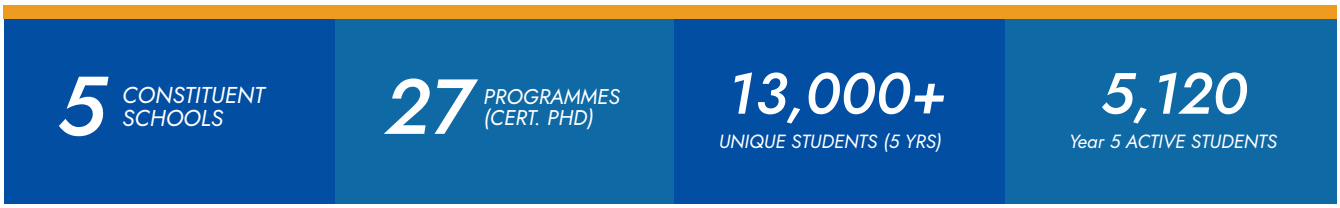
The most significant institutional development of FY 2025–26 was the recognition of FUEL Skill Tech & Entrepreneurship University, Pune as a State University under the Maharashtra Private Skills Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2026. The Bill was introduced in the Legislative Council on 24 March 2026 under Rule 113 of the Council Rules, passed by both houses, and gazetted on 13 April 2026.

What this means. FUEL University is now a fully recognised State University under Maharashtra law, empowered to award Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD degrees in its own right. The University is registered under Section 6 of the Act after due-diligence verification by the State Government's designated committee.

The University at a glance



5-year outlook



Component	₹ Cr	Status / Source
Capital expenditure (one-time)	120	Land + Buildings + Fit-out + Statutory FD + Contingency
— Already raised (Trust)	48	Land + FSI + Current building + Statutory FD
— Bank loan sanctioned	23	Towards new building
— Investor ask (current round)	49	New building balance + Fit-out + Contingency
Operating expenditure (5 years)	225	₹45 Cr / year × 5 — full Opex including faculty, scholarships, R&D
— CSR partnership (Opex anchor)	225	₹45 Cr / year — invitation open to anchor partner(s)
TOTAL PROJECT VALUE (5 YRS)	**345**	**Capex + 5-year Opex**

Detailed financial projections, school-wise HR allocation, and quarterly disbursement schedule are available in the University's investor and partner packs (separate documents).

LOOKING AHEAD: FY 2026-27

The year of inauguration. The year of scaling. The year the University takes its first cohort.

FY 2026–27 will be defined by three priorities, and they are intertwined: launch the inaugural University cohort, close the capital gap on infrastructure, and anchor the operating partnership that funds the University's first phase. Detailed targets, enrolment plans, and budget commitments will be approved by the Board of Management and disclosed through subsequent quarterly updates and the next Annual Report.

Strategic priorities for FY 2026–27

Q1
Apr–Jun 2026

Inaugural Convocation & faculty onboarding

Constitute the Board of Management. Appoint the Vice-Chancellor and statutory officers. Onboard founding faculty across the five schools. Continue capital fundraising for new infrastructure.

Q2
Apr–Jun 2026

First admissions cycle & CSR partnership

Launch the first admissions cycle across all five schools. Onboard CSR partners and formalise the operating partnership agreement. Begin orientation planning for the inaugural cohort.

Q3
Apr–Jun 2026

University operations & programme delivery

Commence academic programmes for the inaugural cohort. Ensure faculty, infrastructure, and student support systems are fully operational. Monitor enrolment outcomes and mid-year performance metrics.

Q4
Apr–Jun 2026

Year-end close-out & impact reporting

Complete the academic term and document outcomes. Prepare annual impact report covering enrolment, CSR commitments, and capital utilisation. Set targets and board disclosures for FY 2027–28.

Strategic themes — beyond Year 1

Faculty & curriculum

Build a faculty bench across the five schools. Establish industry advisory boards for each programme. Pursue NAAC and NIRF readiness from Year 1 onwards

Scholarships & access

Maintain the scholarship reservation across all programmes. Expand scholar cohorts through CSR partner sponsorships. Continue EduRaksha and outreach programmes.

Industry & rental ecosystem

Activate the Industry Rental Ecosystem on dedicated campus floors. Build the long-term scholarship corpus. Position the University as financially self sustaining over time

Eighteen years of FUEL *has carried us from a self-published guidebook to a State University. The next eighteen years and the journey of the young people the University will educate begin now.*

The FUEL Advantage

Four reasons CSR leaders choose FUEL as their delivery partner.

01) Listed, audited, governance-grade

Listed on the National Stock Exchange Social Stock Exchange (March 2026). 80G • 12A • FCRA • CSR-1 compliant. Quarterly reporting standards aligned with Schedule VII expectations.



02) Outcome-driven, not activity-driven

Train-Assess-Deploy model with AMCAT-validated employability. 39,993 lives touched in FY 2025-26 across 6 programme streams, with end-to-end support from mobilisation through training to placement.



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03) Multi-sector reach, single delivery engine

28 corporate donors across BFSI, IT services, oil & gas, manufacturing, and pharma. PAN-India footprint across 8 states.



04) Anchored in policy and academia

Government partnerships with AICTE, NITI Aayog, NSDC, MSSDS. State Gazette notified on 13 April 2026 fully recognised State University. Institutional credibility through Cambridge, Oxford, and Davos engagements.





Rewarded to Accreditation & certifications

Board, statutory compliance, audit, and the team behind FUEL.

Leadership



Dr. Ketan Deshpande

Founder · FUEL

Founded FUEL in 2007 at age 19. Ashoka Fellow (2013). Pavate Fellow, University of Cambridge. PhD in Corporate Social Responsibility. Recognised by the Hon'ble President and Prime Minister of India for contributions to youth empowerment. Represented India at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2016 at Stanford University.

Statutory registrations & compliance

Registration / Recognition	Status	Coverage / Purpose
12A (Income Tax Act)	Active	Tax exemption for charitable receipts
80G (Income Tax Act)	Active	Donor tax-deduction eligibility
MCA registration (CSR-1)	Active	MCA-registered CSR implementing entity
Maharashtra State University Act	Gazetted 13 Apr 2026	State University charter
NSE Social Stock Exchange (SSE)	Listed (30 March 2026)	ZCZP bond issuance for impact investing
Credibility Alliance	Certified	Adherence to Basic Norms for Voluntary Organisations
India Ratings — IRR NGO 2	Graded	Independent rating: Very good operational and financial performance

Audit & transparency

- **Annual statutory audit** by an independent firm of Chartered Accountants empanelled with the C&AG of India.
- **Quarterly internal audit** reviewing programme delivery, fund utilisation, and statutory compliance.
- **Public disclosures** on the FUEL website, the NSE Social Stock Exchange portal, and the MCA portal as required.
- **Donor reporting** quarterly impact reports and annual audited utilisation certificates to all CSR partners and major donors.
- **Right of audit** retained by all corporate CSR partners under standard MoU terms.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To our 28 corporate donors — every commitment honoured, every life counted. We thank each of you for entrusting FUEL as your CSR delivery partner in FY 2025-26, and for joining us in this mission to give every student equal education and career opportunities.

In keeping with our donor confidentiality practice, individual donor financial contributions are not disclosed in this report. Detailed donor-wise programmatic outcome reports are shared with each respective partner directly.

CONTACT

Dr. Ketan Deshpande, Founder & Chairman

Chairmanoffice@fuel.edu.in

+91 86000 35491 / +91 98900 78217

Mrs. Mayuri Deshpande: Programme SPOC

mayuri@fuelfornation.com

+91 95455 23898

Headquarters: Forest Trails Township, Paranjape Schemes, Paud Road, Bhugaon, Pune 412115, Maharashtra, India

www.fuelfornation.com
www.fueledu.in



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CONTACT US

+91 86000 35491 / +91 98900 78217

Chairmanoffice@fuel.edu.in

www.fuelformation.com
www.fueledu.in

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FUEL SKILLTECH & ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIVERSITY

FUEL FRIENDS UNION FOR ENERGISING LIVES