SUBJECT: RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) FOR NIFT FOUNDATION FOR DESIGN INNOVATION (NFDI)

1. About NIFT Foundation for Design Innovation (NFDI)

NIFT Foundation for Design Innovation Incubator is a Section 8 Company registered under Companies Act, set up with its Head Office at NIFT Delhi Campus with following 04 regional incubators:

1. Home and Spaces (NIFT Delhi)
2. Smart wearable systems (NIFT Mumbai)
3. Fashion and Lifestyle accessories (NIFT Mumbai)
4. Apparel including athleisure and activewear (NIFT Chennai)

It aims to provide a menu of services in the domains of Textiles for Home and Spaces, Smart Wearables Lifestyle accessories, and Apparel including activewear. It further aims at providing potential entrepreneurs access to infrastructure and specified services as well as facilitate collaborations relevant for business development. The facilitation provided by NFDI includes pre-incubation, incubation and accelerator services. These would cover developing a viable product, validating the product and scaling up the validated product. NFDI will align with the objectives and deliverables of various incubation schemes, and will partner with other incubators in IITs, IIMs and Central Universities.

The three categories of stakeholders of the incubator includes:

- **Incubatees** - The ones who wish to undertake an entrepreneurial venture and would include NIFT students, NIFT alumni and also other outside candidates who wish to take up NIFT incubation support.
- **Promoters** - The potential sponsors of ideas could include Industry or individual sponsors, Angel investors, venture capitalists, crowd funding sources, Government institutions and other funding organisations.
- **Facilitators** - This could include Artisans and Master Craftspersons, Advisors, Industry mentors, NIFT faculty mentors, Collaborators & Networkers, IPR experts, Legal experts etc.
2. **OBJECTIVES:**

a) To Promote Entrepreneurship
b) To support NIFT members, craftsmen, artisans, and external community entrepreneurs from the ideation phase to the commercialization and scaling phase through a structured process.

c) To provide state of the art facilities, including labs, studios, prototype development centers, offices, to Incubatees to experiment and transform their design ideas into realistic propositions.

d) To facilitate access and networking to Incubatees with various stakeholders such as funding agencies, Angel Investors, Venture Capitalists, Corporates, Research Institutes, Government Organizations, Industry Partners, and Campus Entrepreneurship Communities worldwide.

e) To nurture innovative design, science, technology, and potential business ideas through phased support of Pre- incubation, Incubation, and Acceleration.

f) Translating Knowledge in various disciplines into products, processes, technologies, and services for commercial exploitation that will also benefit society and NFDI shall be used as a vehicle for the application of such research for commercial purposes.

g) To create a separate fund to finance Incubatees at various stages of incubation and acceleration.

3. **NFDI FACILITIES INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:**

**Incubation support Facilities**
- Infrastructure provider in respective Laboratories for Prototype development/ sampling process
- Service provider for Facilitating Quality Assurance and Testing, Repository access, Costing and Other services

**Industry support**
- Identification of mentors from the industry specific to the product and the market, who can engage with the beneficiary on an end-to-end basis.
- Expert lectures/ specific coaching by industry stalwarts for market understanding, pitching of ideas and technical understanding
- Networking with Industry and Alumni who run their own businesses, and benefitting from strategic partnerships / knowledge sharing with them

**Knowledge support**
- Access to investors - Identification of agencies for funding of projects, bridging to governmental schemes, venture capitalists and angel investors
- Facilitate Access to network to leverage Brand partnerships with existing businesses, or Identification of supply chain opportunities with other businesses

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Legal support

- Peer learning - create platform for peer to peer interactions and workshops

- Access to regulatory requirements, specifically for target markets identified
- Access to expertise on legal requirements - Bridging through to connect the beneficiary to resources who can handhold in correct documentation, testing, certifications and legal clearances as well as business practices.
- Creating a viable IP strategy through the use of market-friendly and acceptable trademarks, and providing knowledge for the leverage of good trademark practices.
- The Design Innovation Incubator can also provide able partnerships in the provision of GIs for product ideas and development involving indigenous arts and crafts.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

A.) Roles and Responsibilities:

Ability to ensure realization of the vision and mission of the NIFT Foundation for Design Innovation (NFDI) through development and implementation of strategies for successful accomplishment of objectives and goals, under the guidance of the Board of Directors. The roles and responsibilities of the CEO are as below:

a) To serve as the face of the incubator
b) To meet top design houses across the world and get them to support / collaborate with the incubator. Structure their involvement.
(c) To meet top designers and get them to support / collaborate with the incubator. Structure their involvement.
(d) To meet top funds, governments, & stakeholders and get them to collaborate with the incubator. Structure such collaborations in action-oriented ways.
(e) To set the vision including the following aspects:-
   i) The most optimum utilization of the fund
   ii) Identify the nature and type of projects to be undertaken.
   iii) Identifying potential fund sources and proposing sustainable finance models
   iv) Broad guidelines of funding
   v) Identifying the proposed agencies to collaborate with
   vi) Enabling artisans from key handicrafts clusters to get incubated for scaling up.
(f) To work with NIFT branding team to incorporate the work of the incubator
(g) To oversee the work of the Chief Operating Officers (COO) to enable the implementation of the vision & priorities
Managing:

- Developing the strategic plan for the NFDI as per the directions given by the Board along with the well-defined deliverables, timelines and financials
- Fundraising and Revenue generation to make NFDI self-sustainable within a tenure of 3 years
- Forging partnership with academia, R&D institutions, industry, incubators and angel/seed funding institutions in India and abroad for the start-ups to leverage and work towards building a conducive startup ecosystem;
- Instituting systems for identification and incubation of potential entrepreneurs and start-ups to be supported by the NFDI

Creating Ecosystem:

- Creation of a network of investors, bankers, technical experts, legal experts, financial experts, management experts, industry professionals etc.
- Management of infrastructure, incubation services
- Development and implementation of mentoring programmes for incubatees/incubatee companies.

Relationship:

- To manage relationships with funding agencies, venture capitalists, angel and other investors as potential source of funds
- To manage Public relationships, interface and collaborate effectively with various government agencies, ministries and other incubators
- To manage internal relationships with Chief Operating Officers of respective incubator and incubatee start-up companies
- To interface effectively with the NFDI Board of Directors, NIFT HO and Board of Governors on behalf of the NFDI

B. Eligibility Criteria:

Essential

- Degree in design or fashion technology from a Tier-1 Design / Fashion Technology college, or a track record of being a top end designer in any of the relevant fields of the industry
- Work experience of at least 10 years in the relevant field(s)

C. Reporting:

The CEO will directly report to the Director General, NIFT, Chairman NFDI
D. **Age Limit:** not more than 50 years

E. **Salary:** Consolidated salary of Rs. 3.00 Lakhs per month with an increment of 3% to 7% depending upon performance. TA/DA would be as per the officers in level-13.

F. **Duration:**

The vacancy is to be filled up purely on a fixed term and full-time basis initially for 3 years, which may be extended further subject to satisfactory performance. However, the appointment could be terminated by serving one month's notice. The position will be based at NIFT, New Delhi.

G. **How to apply:**

Application (attached below), including CV, Statement of Purpose within 500 words and two (2) references (in the application format attached below), are to be submitted **BY POST** to “The Registrar, National Institute of Fashion Technology, NIFT Campus Hauz Khas, Near Gulmohar Park, New Delhi-110016” OR **BY EMAIL** at recruitmentcell.niftho@nift.ac.in on or before 26-03-2024.

5. **IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS / INFORMATION**

   1) **No TA/DA** is permissible for participating in the selection process.

   2) Any discrepancy found between the information given in application and as evident in original documents will make the candidate ineligible for appearing in the selection process.

   3) **SELECTION PROCESS:** Selection shall be on the basis of the performance in the Presentation and Personal interview or any other Selection criteria fixed by the NIFT/Selection Committee. The decision of NIFT shall be final.

   4) The dates and mode of Presentation / interview will be communicated through email to the shortlisted candidates. The mode of interview / interaction may be either offline or through online mode which will be at the sole discretion of the Competent Authority.

   5) Suppression of factual information, production of fake documents, providing false or misleading information or any other undesirable action by the candidate shall lead to cancellation of his/her candidature.

   6) In case, any defect/discrepancy is detected at any point of time in future even after appointment that the candidate is not eligible as per the prescribed qualification, experience, etc. which could not be detected at the time of test /interview due to various circumstances, his/her appointment shall be liable for termination forthwith without any notice.

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7) The decision of the NIFT in all matters relating to eligibility, acceptance or rejection of applications, mode of selection, conduct of interview will be final and binding on the candidates.

8) Canvassing in any form and / or bringing any influence political or otherwise will be treated as a disqualification for the post.

9) **NO INTERIM ENQUIRY OR CORRESPONDANCE WILL BE ENTERTAINED.** Candidates are advised to visit NIFT website for updates.

10) The Institute reserves the right to modify/ withdraw the notification at any time. The Institute also reserves the right to reject any or all the applications without assigning any reasons thereof.

11) All correspondence and communication from the Institute including interview/interaction letter, if any, shall be sent only to the e-mail address provided by the applicant in the application form or uploaded on NIFT website www.nift.ac.in

12) Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on the website of the Institute or will be informed by email.
APPLICATION FOR “CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)” IN THE “NIFT FOUNDATION FOR DESIGN INNOVATION (NFDI) COMPANY”

(All the columns are to be filled neatly in capital letters)

1. Name:

2. Contact Details:
   Mobile No._______________________ Landline:_________________________
   Email ID:__________________________________

3. Address:

4. Date of Birth:
   Date Month Year Age as on closing date of applications:
   Years Months Days

5. Educational Qualification:
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6. Professional Qualification:
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7. **Work Experience:**

Work Experience, starting from the present employment:

*(Furnish a resume of work experience with supporting documents, if any, separately)*

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<th>To</th>
<th>Post held / Designation / appointment held</th>
<th>Pay Scale / Level</th>
<th>Nature of appointment (Regular / Contract / Part Time / Ad-hoc / Deputation)</th>
<th>Nature of duties / work performed / duties discharged</th>
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**Total Experience:**

8. **References:**

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Address (where he/she is working)</th>
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<th>Remarks, if any</th>
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9. **Please attach a Statement of Purpose (SOP) within 500 words covering the following:**

(a) Why do you wish to join NIFT?

(b) Why do you think you are suitable for the job?

(c) How will you bring value to NIFT?

(d) What has been a significant defining experience in your professional life?

10. **Please attach CV**
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed/distorted. I am aware that, if at any time I am found to have concealed/withheld/distorted any material information, or furnished false particulars, my appointment is liable to be summarily terminated without notice.

I have informed my employer in writing that I am applying for the above post (in case of candidate who is already employed) and shall produce the no objection certificate to attend the interview/test, if called, and relieving order at the time of joining NIFT, if selected.

PLACE:_____________

DATE:_____________

Signature of the Candidate

(Name of the Candidate)