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Sixth Edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow Celebrates Emerging Filmmaking Talent at IFFI 2026

CHENNAI – 26 Nov, 2026 From developing a story to bringing it to the screen, 100 young creative professionals put their filmmaking skills to the test in an intensive 48-hour challenge as the sixth edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT) concluded at the 57 th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa today. The initiative brought together emerging talent from across the country, culminating in the screening of films created by five teams and the presentation of awards across fifteen categories.

The concluding ceremony was attended by Festival Director of the 57 th IFFI and filmmaker Ashutosh Gowariker; Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Prabhat; Managing Director of NFDC and Vice-Chancellor of

members of jury. The Great Grand Jury was comprised of Aimee Baruah, Premraj, Madhu Apsara, Rumi Jaffrey, and Medha Kherdekar Reddy.

Winners of CMOT 2026

1. Best Film: One Last Stop, directed by Mohak Gandhi (Red Team), awarded ₹5 lakh.

2. Runner-up Film: A Little Something, directed by Tamanna Thakur (Green Team), awarded ₹3 lakh.

3. Best Director: Tamanna Thakur, A Little Something (Green Team).

4. Best Actor: Siddhi Parkar, Shells (Blue Team).

5. Best Cinematographer: Triasha Manna, One Last Stop (Red Team).

6. Best Editor: Nayan Chotaliya and Manav Agarwal, A Little Something (Green Team).

7. Best Scriptwriter:



Team).

8. Best Sound Design: Aswin Ashok, Two Sunsets and Zero Sunrises (Yellow Team).

9. Best Playback Singer: Sree Parvati S, Shells (Blue Team).

10. Best Music Composer: Akshay Anmol Katore, Neel Machli (Beige Team).

11. Best Costume Design: Srushti Wagh and Rupalika Paul, One Last Stop (Red Team).

12. Best Hair and Makeup Artist: Kashish Jaiswal, Shells (Blue Team).

13. Best Art Design: Srushti Wagh and Rupalika Paul, One Last Stop (Red Team).

14. Best Animation and VFX Artist: Harsh Sahani and Prakash Kumar Mehta, Neel Machli (Beige Team).

15. Best Voice-over/Dubbing: Sudeksha Sarkar, A Little Something (Green Team).

A bridge to the industry

Congratulating the participants on completing the 48-hour filmmaking challenge, Additional Secretary Prabhat described CMOT as a bridge between emerging talent and the film industry. He said the initiative provides young creators with an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and connect with industry professionals.