LEADERSHIP
IN GLOBAL TALENT DEVELOPMENT

NIIT

NIIT in the News

Economic Times, New Delhi
**January 4, 2011**

India Inc Has A Dream For 2011

It's that time of the year again, when we rush to make our New Year resolutions. Team ET spoke to captains of industry about their business and personal goals for 2011

THINKSTOCK

S GOPALAKRISHNAN
CEO AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, INFOSYS

WITH growth back in the IT industry, it is important to capture as much as possible. My resolution is to expand the business into newer markets geographically, by industry and by services. This will also be a collective goal for the company, and hence, we will use a balance scorecard to implement it and track its progress.
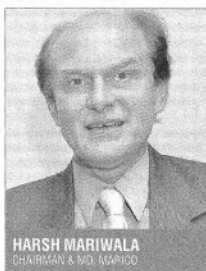
HARSH MARIWALA
CHAIRMAN & MD, MARICO

I DON'T believe in making New Year resolutions. My idea is that one should make resolutions and set goals throughout the year and work towards achieving them, rather than just once a year. I believe, that way, one can aspire for more and even achieve more. I have always followed this and have no qualms in saying it has worked for me and taken Marico to where it is today.

CAPTAIN GR GOPINATH
CHAIRMAN AND MD, DECCAN 360

I WANT to ensure every villager has connectivity, access to information and is able to market is produce in a better way through my logistic business. My personal resolution is to do river rafting and go on a cruise on the Brahmaputra. I also want to travel to Leh, Lahaul-Spiti, Arunachal Pradesh and camp at the Himalayas in 2011. Amidst all this, spending time with family and more time on my farm are on the priority list.
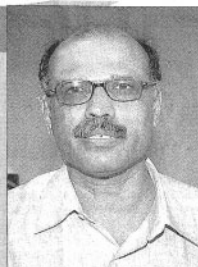
KIRAN MAZUMDAR SHAW
CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, BIOCON

MY business goal for 2011 will be to get the Pfizer partnership for commercialisation of biosimilar versions of insulin and insulin analogues to a strong start in emerging markets and build leadership for our research services businesses. My personal resolution will be to improve my work-life balance by spending more time with family and less at conferences.

SANJIV GOENKA
VICE-CHAIRMAN, RPG ENTERPRISES

FUNDAMENTALLY, I'm not a man who believes in New Year resolutions. But if I had to look at 2011 from a business perspective, it has to be a year focused on growth and consolidation of my business. That's the core objective. And yes, on the personal front, I'll be really trying to knock off some weight!

VENUGOPAL DHOOT
CHAIRMAN, VIDEOCON

I SEE 2011 ushering in social well-being and economic prosperity for the *aam* Indian. Poised to become the world's fastest growing economy, the coming decade will see the rise and rise of India towards becoming a superpower in its own right. Not through just material power, but through 'soft power', that is, the ability to influence and impact the world through its unique culture, values, policies and institutions. In such a context, my New Year resolution will be to do my bit, both at the personal and industry level, to drive this 2020 vision forward.
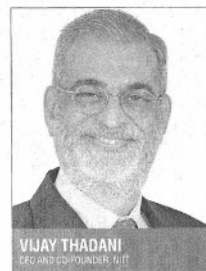
VIJAY THADANI
CEO AND CO-FOUNDER, NIIT

I HAVE two resolutions for 2011. I sincerely want to reduce the school goers' burden and make their bags lighter by a tenth. Our school solutions division, NIIT eguru, which works with 15,000 schools, could help children carry tablets instead of books, and we can achieve this through customised offerings. My second resolution is to reach out to 20 million more learners this year and take the count to 50 million as NIIT turns 30 this year. Cutting across verticals, from corporates, schools, colleges, individuals and the government, I want to double the target which took the company three decades to cover.

Hindu Business Line, Hyderabad
January 22, 2011

NIIT consolidated net grows 36% in Q3

Our Bureau
New Delhi, Jan. 21

NIIT Ltd on Friday posted 36 per cent year-on-year increase in consolidated net profit for fiscal's third quarter, underlining the positive momentum in the training market resulting from aggressive industry hiring.

The profit after tax stood at about Rs 13 crore in December quarter. The company saw a 130 basis point improvement in EBITDA margins (at 12 per cent) fuelled by higher business volumes, improved product mix and operational leverages.

NET REVENUE

The net revenue at Rs 301 crore was six per cent higher than the year-ago period. The global system wide revenue was up five per cent year-on-year at Rs 415 crore for the quarter ended December 2010. "New businesses (which include finance and management training) grew 33 per cent. With skills shortages be-

The Chairman of NIIT Ltd, Mr Rajendra S. Pawar, flanked by the CEO, Mr Vijay K. Thadani (right), and the COO, Mr P. Rajendran, during a press conference in the Capital on Friday.
— Ramesh Sharma

coming pervasive, NIIT is positioning itself for future opportunities," Mr Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman of NIIT Ltd, said at a conference.

Individual Learning Solutions – IT recorded a 12 per cent growth in net revenue year on year and 142 bps margin improvement during the just ended quarter.

The company posted about 46 per cent growth in job-oriented diploma programs.

Order intake for Corporate Learning Solutions was at $33.1 million for the quarter as a result of customer wins in managed training services. The closing order book stood at $92.5 million.

FOREX LOSSES

The software training firm had an adverse impact of Rs 1.4 crore on December quarter profit on account of foreign exchange losses.

Economic Times, Hyderabad
January 22, 2011

NIIT Ltd Q3 net profit up 36% on strong order pipeline

NEW DELHI: IT training company NIIT Ltd on Friday reported growth of nearly 36% in its consolidated net profit at ₹12.9 crore for the third quarter ended December 31, 2010, on the back of good order intake. The company had a net profit of ₹9.5 crore in the October-December quarter last fiscal, NIIT Ltd said here. "There was 12% revenue growth in Individual Learning Solutions business and strong order intake of $33.3 million in Corporate Learning Solutions contributed to this growth," NIIT Ltd Chief Executive Officer Vijay K Thadani. Net revenues of the company rose 6% to ₹300.7 crore during the period under review, as against ₹283.6 crore in the same period last fiscal. Shares of NIIT Ltd were trading at ₹57.50 on the Bombay Stock Exchange, up 1.32% from the previous close.

Financial Express, New Delhi
January 12, 2011

INCREASING scope

NIIT is no longer only about IT education. In the last two years, it has entered uncharted territories to take a second shot at greatness, just as it has given millions a second chance to build a career. NIIT's long shown drive to handle a situation which many organisations gave up as lost, among other things, seems to have impressed ICICI Bank enough to become it's partner in setting up the Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance. It seems like a perfect opportunity for both, with the bank facing a problem of manpower supply and NIIT was looking to diversify. A perfect solution to both their problems and to many more looking for a brighter career option.

Niharika Soma

Economic Times, Kolkata
January 22, 2011

NIIT profit jumps on demand boost

PTI
NEW DELHI

IT training firm NIIT on Friday said its consolidated net profit increased by 36% to ₹12.9 crore for the the quarter ended December 31, 2010, on the back of better demand for its enhanced product mix and improved operational efficiency.

The company's profit after tax (PAT) stood at ₹9.5 crore for the same period last fiscal. "We are very bullish on the current environment as the demand for skilled IT professionals is high and recruitment is up. We have registered growth across all our product portfolios," NIIT chief executive officer Vijay K Thadani told reporters here.

The company's net revenue grew 6% year-on-year to ₹300.7 crore from ₹283.6 crore in the same quarter last year. The net revenue of NIIT's Individual Learning Solutions business grew by 12%, while its School Learning Solutions vertical registered 68% growth year-on-year, driven by a surge in the number of orders from private schools. "We have increased our focus on private schools as these projects offer better margins. That does not mean we will not do government projects, but the ratio will be more toward private," Thadani said.

Currently, about 40% of the company's School Learning Solutions vertical's revenue comes from private schools, while the rest is from government schools.

Hindustan Times, Chandigarh
January 12, 2011

ICICI Bank to launch course for MBA students

HT Live Correspondent
✉ chdlivedesk@hindustantimes.com

CHANDIGARH: In a first of its kind partnership, the not-for-profit NIIT University and ICICI Bank Ltd, India's largest private sector bank, have come together to launch a Master of Business Administration (Finance and Banking) programme, to be commenced from April this year.

The agreement was signed on Tuesday by managing director and CEO of the bank Chanda Kochhar and university founder Rajendra S Pawar.

The two-year programme combines conceptual rigour with experiential learning through a unique collaboration between the domain expertise of the university, and the functional expertise of the banking industry.

The students will also undergo an industry-linked internship at ICICI Bank during the course duration. On successful completion of the programme, the students would directly assume middle-management responsibilities in the bank.

Kochhar said, "India is poised at a unique moment in its history, with prospects of sustained high growth driven by strong fundamentals. The financial sector will support and indeed catalyse India's robust and inclusive growth process. To take full advantage of this environment, the country needs business leaders with a high degree of knowledge, analytical skills, business acumen and people management skills. This tie-up is a step towards grooming such leaders."

Speaking on the tie-up, Pawar said: "This MBA programme will groom research-minded managers."

## Indian Express, Chennai
January 17, 2011

NIIT launches MBA in finance and banking

NIIT University and ICICI Bank have launched an MBA programme in finance and banking. The agreement was signed by Chanda Kochhar, MD and CEO, ICICI Bank, and Rajendra S Pawar, founder, NIIT University. Students will have to do an internship at ICICI Bank during the two-year course. At the end of the programme the students would directly assume middle-management responsibilities in ICICI Bank. The course is expected to commence from April. For more information, contact Parimal V Mandke, registrar, NIIT University at 9810306914 or e-mail *parimalm@ niituniversity.in* ∎

Indian Express, Chennai
January 10, 2011
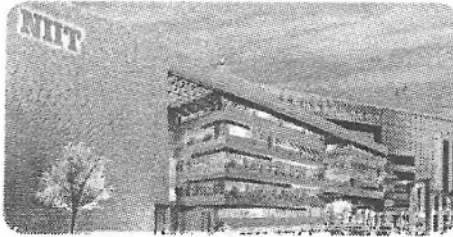
NIIT awarded

NIIT was conferred the 'Top IT Training Company Award 2010' by IT magazine *Dataquest* recently. This is the 17th time in a row that NIIT is receiving the award. In its annual IT industry survey, *Dataquest* reports that NIIT continues to be the leading player in the category. NIIT's revenue of ₹1,199 crores in 2009-2010 formed 24 per cent of the total IT education market in India. NIIT also formed strategic alliances with IBM and SAP to provide the latest IT curriculum to its students ∎

Dainik Jagaran City Plus, Greater Noida
January 1, 2011

Ryaniites take on chess wizard Viswanathan Anand

It was like a dream come true for little chess masters of Ryan International School, Greater Noida, who got a chance to play with chess wizard Viswanathan Anand. He graced the school with his presence during the launch of 'NIIT mind champions' here on Thursday.

The day commenced with a heartfelt welcome to Viswanathan Anand who was accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel TG Mathus of NIIT and Ryan Pinto, CEO of Ryan Group of Institutions. The occasion was marked with several cultural events. Overwhelmed with extraordinary performances of the students, Viswanathan could not resist himself from interacting with students.

He told them about the advantage of playing chess and how it helps in the improvement of learning skills. "Chess helps to concentrate. Do you know student who play chess regularly can easily solve mathematical problems," said Anand.

'Mind Champions' is a joint initiative of Viswanathan Anand and NIIT, which aims to popularise chess in school across the country. "We are pleased to add Ryan International School, Greater Noida, as our partner and to introduce Ryanites to the fascinating world of chess," said Anand.

He also played a rapid fire chess round with around 12 students. A chess board signed by the Grandmaster was presented to CEO Ryan Pinto as a mark of appreciation. The eventful day ended with words of gratitude expressed by the students and the principal of the school.

Hindu, New Delhi
January 8, 2011

Presenting prospects

CHAT *John Rosenberg from Australia's La Trobe University on what it has for Indian students*

Professor John Rosenberg, deputy vice-chancellor and vice-president of the La Trobe University, Australia, was recently in India to meet with heads of various academic institutions here and collaborate with them along with holding alumni meets in Delhi and Hyderabad. In this interview, he talked to us about those partnerships, the university and its Indian connect.
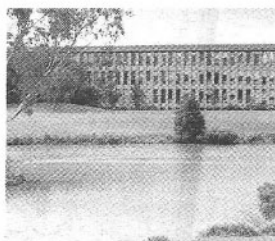
Speaking about the various universities La Trobe plans to partner with from India, he mentioned having a meeting with NIIT. "We already have a partnership with NIIT. It is for those students who want to complete NIIT's programmes in countries like Africa, Middle East and Vietnam; they can do that by coming to La Trobe and getting their degree. We are now talking about students doing the same thing within NIIT as well. We also have a relationship with Lady Shriram College, which we have had for many years with student exchanges, etc. We also met the head of Delhi Technological University, which will be a new relationship. Then there were talks with Delhi University."

Along with various student exchange programmes, La Trobe University also focuses on joint research programmes. He also added, "La Trobe is about 45 years old. We have the second largest university campus in Australia in Melbourne. The university has been teaching Indian history, Sanskrit and Hindi since the time of its inception in 1967 and also has one of the largest libraries housing books on Indian history and language in Australia, which was opened by the then Indian Prime Minister

La Trobe University

Indira Gandhi."

One of the strong areas of the university is its health sciences department. Popular courses include dentistry, pharmacy, social work, psychology and physiotherapy. "Some of the most popular programmes for students from India are Master of Biotechnology and Master of Business Administration."

With cases of racist attacks on Indian students reported in that country in the recent past, questions are bound to rise on the steps taken by the university against such occurrences. Prof. Rosenberg said, "It was very sad that those attacks happened. But having said that it is also a fact that Melbourne has regularly been listed as one of the safest cities to live in. We, along with the police, are trying to make students more aware of the unsafe parts of the city during their orientation itself. I am sure there are unsafe areas to be avoided in any city. Also, we are screening students at the time of admission itself as a lot of them wander off to cheaper areas to live probably because of lack of money. There is also a helpline number a student can call on at any time of the day."

TREESHA DATTA

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi
January 26, 2011

Top honours for economy, industry

Padma award winners for 2010: (Clockwise from Left); Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Planning Commission Deputy Chairman (Padma Vibhushan); Ms Chanda Kochhar, ICICI Bank MD (Padma Bhushan); Mr Azim Premji, Wipro Chairman (Padma Vibhushan); Mr Y.C. Deveshwar, ITC Chairman (Padma Bhushan); Mr S. Gopalakrishnan, Infosys CEO and MD (Padma Bhushan); Mr Ajai Chowdhary, HCL CEO (Padma Bhushan); Mr Analjit Singh, Max India Chairman (Padma Bhushan); and Mr R.S. Pawar, NIIT Chairman (Padma Bhushan). (See also Page 4) – PTI

A CLASS ACT

LEADER OF AN INDIAN FIRM ENGAGED IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION IN CHINA LOOKS BEYOND CLASSROOM

By **INDRAJIT BASU** in KOLKATA

Ask Vijay K. Thadani what NIIT means for China and the techie-turned-tycoon says it isn't just a teaching shop. Of course, it's a lot more than another training institute. "It's a global talent development corporation, a skilled manpower builder," avers the dapper co-founder and CEO of the India-based IT education company. "We are ambassadors of Chinese youth (and) are trying to help them understand the strengths of India and China and develop a mutually beneficial partnership between the two countries," says Thadani, the main architect of NIIT's phenomenal rise from a local institute to a global institution. "We also help Chinese youth to achieve their potential, aspiration and ambition to play a leading role in the global IT space," he says.

Thadani established NIIT in 1981, and 10 years ago led it into becoming the first Indian IT company to address China's needs in skills development. He was also among the first to spot China's potential in the global IT software arena, and the transformation it required to become a global force.

"We saw an extension of the model we had used in India in that country," he says, recalling that India faced large-scale unemployment alongside a great demand for trained youth in particular areas. "(When) China realized that beyond their strength in building world-class infrastructure and manufacturing industries, their education system could do with outside help, we stepped in."

Since 2001, NIIT's China operations have expanded to more than 170 locations, across 25 provinces. Besides IT education and training, in 2005, Thadani started NIIT's software development business in China.

An early start obviously helped NIIT, but Thadani was innovative as well.

For instance, he crafted the "NIIT Inside model" which embedded its courses in the IT curriculum of Chinese universities and colleges. That, he says, enables Chinese students to take up a four-year Bachelor Degree program or a three-year Associate Degree program right after the 12th grade. Currently 129 universities and colleges in China have embedded NIIT programs in their courses.

Having trained more than 100,000 IT professionals who have found jobs in companies such as IBM, China Telecom, Hewlett-Packard, and Bank of Shanghai, NIIT is turning to its next goal of turning out more Chinese IT graduates annually than all of the country's universities combined.

In 2003 NIIT won an award for being the "Annual Best Placement and Best Training Institution" by *China Computer Gazette*. Other accolades followed: "Most Influential IT Education Certificate Brand in China", the "Best IT Training Curriculum", both in 2004, and the "Best Training Institute by Undergraduates" in 2007.

> ## "
> ### While (China and India) are culturally Yin and Yang, in the global business arena, it is time now to address the world not as Yin versus Yang but Yin and Yang."
>
> VIJAY THADANI, CEO, NIIT

"Those awards not (only) said that we are the best but are expected to remain the best," Thadani says. "NIIT will strive hard to remain that way and (the awards) also reassure us that we are adding value to the youth."

As the center of economic activity slowly shifts towards Asia, especially India and China, he thinks it imperative for the youth in the two countries to see the two sides as being together "rather than as opposites".

Sino-Indian relations, he says, will be dictated less by their political equations, and increasingly by their economic and trade relations.

"There was an older belief that said for good trade relations, there has to be good political relations. The India-China example has shown that you can build a strong trade relationship which can build good political relations. The booming trade between the two countries

is already leading them to improve their political relations," Thadani says. "In fact the next level of trade relationship will be built on the basis of education and culture."

Small wonder then, that he is willing to take a stake in the collaborative potential of the two most populous nations of the world.

He suggests that the current trend is towards software applications being developed in different parts of the world with their respective expertise contributing to large developments. China and India can achieve a lot by combining their acts, Thadani says.

"Together we can make one plus one eleven. And while the two countries are culturally Yin and Yang, in the global business arena, it is time now to address the world not as Yin versus Yang but Yin and Yang."

Indrajit Basu is a Kolkata-based writer for China Daily Asia Weekly

BIO

Vijay K. Thadani
Chief Executive Officer, NIIT Limited & Founder, NIIT University
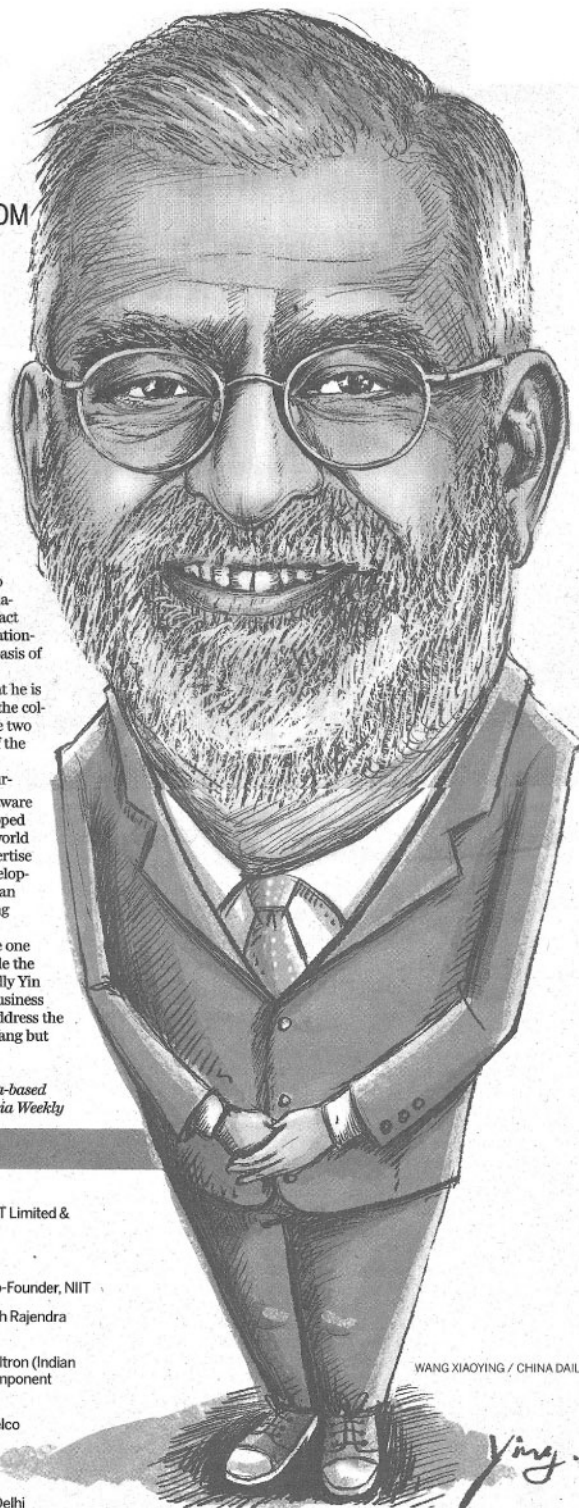
Career History

1981-present: CEO and Co-Founder, NIIT

1981: Co-Founded NIIT with Rajendra Pawar

1974 – 81: Worked with Keltron (Indian state-owned electronic component manufacturer)

1972 – 74: Worked with Nelco (Indian privately-owned electronic component manufacturer)

1972: Graduated from IIT Delhi

WANG XIAOYING / CHINA DAILY

Rajendra Pawar, chairman and co-founder, NIIT Group

This decade will see a very large number of children coming out of school. Therefore, we have to get ready. Call it as a threat, call it as an opportunity, call it whatever. I see that the next decade is a decade where technology, application, education will get a full expression.

There is a range of offerings, for different kind of runners and the government is actually asking the non-government sector to come forward because the government, alone cannot, just cannot cope with the amount of demand that's going to be generated.

Vijay Thadani, co-founder & CEO, NIIT

If India has to surpass the 10% growth mark then it has to realize the role of IT industry in making the infrastructure grow. One of the things required for sustained growth is human infrastructure; we have always maintained that we lack infrastructure sadly by this we mean the physical infrastructure and not the knowledge infrastructure. The Right to Education bill (when it gets passed in the Parliament) will put around 300 mn children in school, and if all go to school we will run short of teachers. The role of ICT in bridging the teacher-student ratio is critical. In terms of high education too, we have a 12.4% growth enrolment ratio and if we want it to be increased to 30%, then we will need 70-80 thousand colleges and would need to set up innovation centers. ICT will help us in delivering excellence, expansion (of faculty), and to make India a knowledge network.

On the skill development front, we want 500 mn skilled Indians, how will this happen if we do not have the institutes. ICT can supplement the lack of trainers, by making sure that there are simulated labs in the common infrastructure and also provide translation infrastructure.

The 3 priorities for education are—on the inclusive education front, ICT can enable reach the unreachable at a fraction of resources; help in expansion as even now we need more universities and skill development institutions; and delivering excellence by going from product based economy to knowledge based economy.
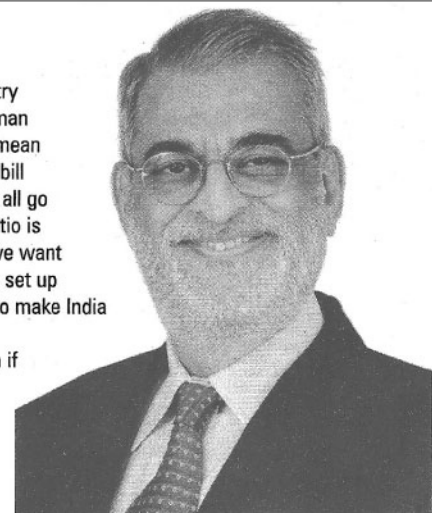
Shift and control

Though software skills have been in demand for a while, the need for qualified, competent professionals is only growing. That's good news for those inclined towards a career in computers. By **Aruna Rathod**

Rahul Bhosle is working towards doing an MBA in Quality Systems in a bid to remain a cut above the rest.
PHOTO : SUDIPTA BANERJEE

NIIT ties up with KSWDC

The Kerala State Women's Development Corporation (KSWDC) has tied up with NIIT to deliver vocational training in various sectors for graduate women in Kerala. The tie up will facilitate empowerment in terms of technology and non-tech skills. An agreement was signed recently between PTM Sunish, MD and Manish Mohan, senior vice president, NIIT. To begin with, three courses — certificate programme in in-store services, certificate programme in BPO, certificate programme for PC and hardware maintenance — will be offered ▪

Rahul Bhosle was very clear that he wanted to get into the field of software. "I began my career as a software developer. I had extensive experience (nine years in development) and then switched over to quality assurance. If you work in the software development field, you have to face a quality audit check by internal and external auditors.

I also began assisting people working for quality certification. While doing this I realised that quality assurance processes really go a long way in ensuring that whatever is developed is correct. This led me to switch to quality assurance as a career," says Bhosle.

Education and experience – a must

The focus of making developed systems work error-free was a challenge that attracted Bhosle to this field. "My first job was as a lab instructor at NIIT, where I worked for two years. Thsi job helped me immensely in clearing various premonitions that I had about computers and concepts," he says.

Bhosle has a Bachelors degree in science from Mumbai University along with a Bachelors degree in computers from IGNOU (Pune University). "After earning my basic degrees, I did the two-year advanced diploma in computers from NIIT, and a one-year diploma from the Micro Institute of Computer Technology (MICT). This course is organised by Micro Technologies (India) Ltd. and includes six months of training and six months of industry experience as well. This helped me get a foothold in this industry. The MICT course also includes training on testing concepts and also provides hands-on training," he says.

Growing demand

The field of software testing is only growing as many universities now offer advanced education in quality systems. To equip himself further in this field Bhosle is also currently pursuing an MBA in Quality Systems.

"It is essential to be fully qualified as companies are becoming more and more quality oriented these days," he advises.

Software testing accounts for almost 30% of the software development market. The global testing market is estimated to be a $13 billion industry. With the boom of the third party software testing business, the need for quality and trained manpower has become a critical issue in the industry.

"The size of the Indian testing market is valued at ₹150-200 crore. It is said to be growing at a faster rate than the global average. It has been estimated that the software testing arena in India will require more than 16,000-18,000 professionals within the next one year," avers Bhosle.

Deccan Herald, Bangalore
February 7, 2011

Would love to play in India: Anand

World chess champ says hosts are the team to beat at World Cup

BANGALORE: All the qualities that have contributed to Viswanathan Anand becoming a multiple world champion were on full view at the Chinnaswamy stadium on Sunday.

NIIT's brand ambassador was in the City to interact with participants and winners of their corporate chess championship, hand over prizes, take questions from the media and play simultaneous chess.

Mobbed by an admiring bunch of fans, Anand kept his poise admirably. Neither screaming toddlers nor regularly ringing cell phones made a dent.

An irreverential few who were happily chatting away, unmindful of the answers flowing from the maestro who fielded questions from everyone except the media -- languishing at the back of the hall in what was officially supposed to be a press conference! -- also made no impression on Anand's thought process or his concentration as he answered every query with sincerity and utmost seriousness.

Quickly getting into his stride after signing on the giant bat wishing the Indian team good luck at the cricket World Cup --a Deccan Herald-Prajavani initiative -- Anand said he would be delighted if his World Championship match next year too could be hosted in India. "I would love to play in India, I hope something like that happens sooner rather than later," he remarked.

"The decision on where to host the next Championship match hasn't been made yet, let's just wait and watch. The last time I played in India was the 2002 World Cup at Hyder-

MASTER AT WORK World chess champion and new world number one Viswanathan Anand makes a move during a simultaneous exhibition in Bangalore on Sunday. DH photo

abad and I really enjoyed the experience."

There would be the pressure of playing at home, Anand acknowledged, adding that it would be enjoyable pressure. Talk inevitably veered to the cricket World Cup, and the pressures on the Indian team of an expectant billion.

"The cricketers know what to do," he remarked, modestly. "I just can wish them all good luck. I hope they make us proud, winning the World Cup at home.

"I always root for my home team, but this time, I have a strong feeling India have a great chance to win the World Cup. I don't know who will upset them. England look good after their dominant show over

Australia, but India are my pick."

This could be Sachin Tendulkar's last World Cup, and Anand had a word of advice for the little master. "In my experience, it's better for him not to think too much on this being his last World Cup," Anand observed.

"Maybe Sachin knows how to deal with it and how to battle the pressure of playing in front of his home fans. If I was in this position, I would just block the thought away but I don't know how easy it will be for Sachin to do that in India."

Anand has regained the number one spot after nearly one year after finishing second in the Tata Steel International at Wijk Aan Ze. "The official rat-

ings will be released only in March," he revealed. "I have been trying to regain the top slot for a while.

"This is a nice thing to happen, I was the world number last more than one year ago. There is a World Championship next year, and this ranking should serve as a motivation for bigger tournaments that lie ahead."

Contrary to popular perception, Anand said he didn't necessarily train every day. "Sometimes, I may not train at all, sometimes an hour or two a day but when I get down to intensive training mode, it's often eight or nine hours a day," he said, offering an insight into his work ethics.

DH News Service

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi
February 9, 2011

Mr Vijay K Thadani

NIIT to focus on training corporate employees

G. Naga Sridhar
Mumbai, Feb. 8

NIIT Ltd is planning to increase its focus on training corporate employees through customised programmes, the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Vijay K. Thadani.

"We have already secured five global corporate clients, including Philips, to design and implement training programmes for their employees which gave us a revenue of $75 million up to the end of third quarter of the current fiscal," Mr Thadani told *Business Line* on the sidelines of Nasscom's India Leadership Forum 2011 here. At Rs 144.6 crore for the December quarter, Corporate Learning Solutions contributed nearly 35 per cent of its total revenues.

The company, which calls this offering as managed training service segment, is treating it as one of the key revenue drivers along with employability training and school interface. The organisations on an average spend 1-4 per cent of their training on employees' training, he said adding: "But this is mostly on just-in-case basis rather than 'just-in-time' programmes."

It will study an organisation for about six weeks to understand the talent strengths and requirements of its employees. "Then the training would be offered with a combination of traditional and e-learning models," he said. The duration of the programmes could be from three days to over a week. The cost of the programmes will depend on the requirements, he added.

INTEGRATION

The company is integrating its centres. "The idea is to make a student take up and complete any course from any centre," he said.

In the first phase, it has integrated 33 centres. "By April 2011, we will be linking 350 of our centres," Mr Thadani said.

On the business in employability training segment after the economic crisis, the chief executive said the positive mood in the industry and increased placements/good hiring projections resulted in increased demand for IT training/education.

Hindu business Line, Mumbai
February 15, 2011

NIIT, Zend join hands for training on Web apps

Our Bureau
New Delhi, Feb. 14

IT training company NIIT Ltd on Monday announced a strategic alliance with US-based Zend Technologies to offer training programmes and courses on PHP Web technology.

PHP is programming language used for building Web applications and it runs an estimated 35 per cent of the world's Web sites including popular ones such as Facebook and Yahoo. NIIT says it plans to train about 80,000 professionals on this technology over the next three years.

"NIIT will offer training programmes on PHP and Zend Framework to create a talent pool of PHP developers and Zend Certified Engineers. The courses – with duration of up to eight months – will be initially offered through 50 centres starting next month and it will be scaled to 250 centres in three years," Mr Vijay K Thadani, Chief Executive Officer of NIIT Ltd, said.

California-headquartered Zend Technologies, is a provider of software and services for developing, deploying and managing PHP applications for on-premise and cloud computing environments. With an increasing number of companies choosing PHP as their platform for building Web applications, there is a rising demand for skilled PHP professionals globally. Some of the most popular social networks and applications such as Drupal, WordPress, and Magento were also built on PHP. Companies such as AT&T, GE, France Telecom/Orange, Fiat Automotive, Cisco, Lufthansa and NYSE Euronext have opted for Zend PHP solutions for their Web applications.

Daily News & Analysis, Mumbai
February 11, 2011

SHORT STORIES
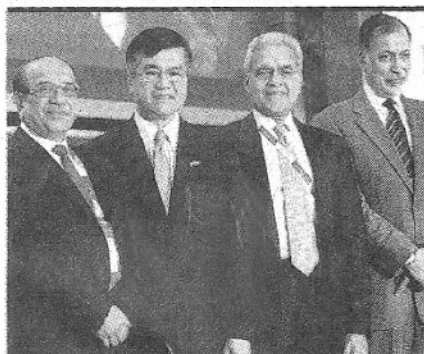
(From left) Som Mittal, Nasscom president, Gary Locke, Commerce secretary, USA, Harsh Manglik, Nasscom chairman, and Rajendra Pawar, NIIT Group founder and chairman, at a Nasscom meet on Thursday — Bl. Soni DNA

Hindu, Chennai
February 16, 2011

NIIT, Zend forge alliance

CHENNAI: NIIT has announced a strategic alliance with Zend Technologies of the U.S. for developing, deploying and managing business-critical PHP (hypertext preprocessor) applications for on-premise and cloud computing environments. Under this partnership, NIIT will offer training programmes on PHP and Zend framework to create a talent pool of high-quality PHP developers and Zend certified engineers. PHP runs 35 per cent of the world's websites including Facebook andYahoo.

Hindustan Times, New Delhi
February 1, 2011

Anand finishes second, set to regain top spot

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi
February 11, 2011

※ **Viswanathan Anand was disappointed after the draw against Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia.**　FILE PHOTO

Press Trust of India
✉ sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

WIJK AAN ZEE, NETHERLANDS: Five times winner Viswanathan Anand had to be content with a second place finish following a draw with Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia in the 13th and final round of 73rd Tata Steel Chess tournament here.

The world champion could draw a big consolation from the fact that he would be the number one ranked player all over again as the results here proved that he will be overtaking world number one Magnus Carlsen of Norway in the next rating list to be released in March.

Hikaru Nakamura of United States own the title after drawing his final round game with Wang hao of China. For the records, Nakamura tallied 9 points in all, a half point more than Anand in this category-20 super tournament between 14-players. The American not only performed way beyond his rating of 2751 but also finished ahead of the world's top four ranked players. Anand got the better position with his black pieces but could not find a breakthrough AS Nepomniachtchi simply got an impregnable position in the endgame arising out of a Sicilian defense game.

The Indian ace settled for a draw in 37 moves. "When I reached a plus-four score (Four wins and rest draws), I felt I was well on my way to a final victory but Hikaru just kept winning, picking up six points in a row, which was quite amazing. "But I'm not unhappy; it's difficult to be unhappy with a plus-four score. It's a pity I didn't manage to win the tournament but I think I performed above my rating, which isn't bad at all," the World Champion said. The third place was shared by Magnus Carlsen and Levon Aronian of Armenia.

SASIKIRAN HELD
GIBRALTAR: Grandmaster Krishnan Sasikiran was held to a draw by Swiss veteran Viktor Korchnoi in the sixth round of the Tradewise Gibraltar .

Mr Rajendra S. Pawar, Founder-Chairman, NIIT Group, with Mr Shiv Nadar, HCL Chairman, at the Nasscom meet in Mumbai on Thursday. — Paul Noronha

Trinity Mirror, Chennai
February 21, 2011

NIIT to hold IT aptitude test

Chennai, Feb. 21: NIIT, leading Global Talent Development Corporation and Asia's largest IT trainer, has announced country's largest IT Aptitude Test— the 7th National I.T. Aptitude Test (NITAT) — to enable students and graduates to calibrate their potential and aptitude for a career in the promising IT industry. 'NITAT 2011', will be simultaneously conducted by NIIT, in over 120 cities nationwide, on February 26, 2011.

NITAT has been designed as an objective type test of reasoning, comprehension, data interpretation skills and behavioral traits. Every student undergoing the test will receive a scorecard with their interpretation, along with her/his nationwide and zonal ranking.

The assessment is expected to be of particular benefit to graduating students in determining their aptitude for I.T. careers as well as the I.T. domain that they should take up. Students desirous of checking their aptitude for IT can appear for NITAT 2011 by registering online on www.niit.com/NITAT or by visiting the nearest NIIT centre.

Flagging off NITAT 2011 nationally, Mr. G. Raghavan, President-Global Individual Learning Solutions, NIIT said, "With the return of a strong hiring outlook, IT and ITeS industry will be looking for talent aggressively. Being held for the 7th consecutive year, National I.T. Aptitude Test (NITAT) is emerging as an important instrument for not only evaluating but also understanding potential next steps for aspiring IT professionals."

As per latest industry figures announced by NASSCOM, the Indian IT and ITes industry is estimated to grow by 19% to reach USD 76 billion in FY2011, thereby adding 240,000 jobs in FY 2011. Further, the outlook for the coming financial year remains positive with software and services export revenues expected to grow by 16-18 per cent and domestic revenues to grow by 15-17 per cent in the FY 2011-12. These figures are a reflection of the growing positive sentiments within the IT and ITeS sector which will make a large pool of job ready manpower a necessity.

Financial Chronicle, New Delhi
February 15, 2011

NIIT, Zend to offer training programmes on PHP

S RONENDRA SINGH
New Delhi

IT TRAINING firm, NIIT, on Monday entered into an alliance with California-based Zend Technologies wherein, the firm will offer training programmes on hypertext pre-processor (PHP). Zend framework will create a talent pool of high-quality PHP developers and Zend certified engineers. NIIT will train 80,000 people over next three years at its 250 centres.

As part of this tie-up, Zend will provide training

In the first year, the firms expect to train 10,000 people of different backgrounds

curriculum for PHP and NIIT will customise the content for absorption within the Indian market.

"Starting March 2011, we will conduct training programmes in our 50 centres across India. And, in the first year we expect to train around 10,000 people of different backgrounds such as undergraduate, graduate and IT professionals," CEO, NIIT, Vijay K Thadani said.

"Firms such as AT&T, GE and Lufthansa rely on Zend PHP solutions for their business-critical web applications," VP (Americas and emerging markets field operations) Zend, Siddhartha Agarwal said.

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Higher Education (The Times of India)
Volume III / 2011

[INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY]

> Glocalisation is certainly the way forward towards building more relevant learning systems across the world, and through them, skilled global talent

GLOBALISE
OR PERISH

RAJENDRA S PAWAR
Chairman, NIIT Limited & Founder, NIIT University

by invitation

THE WORLD HAS undergone major transformations, especially post-World War II, with several critical trends and movements shaping 20th century thinking. As the process of recovery began, governments across the globe started to ideate on the concept of economic liberalisation, easing restrictions and allowing market forces to prevail.

The second movement, inextricably linked to liberalisation and an outcome of it, was privatisation. As this force came into play, governments began relinquishing ownership of businesses and public services under their care, transferring them to private, for-profit and non-profit organisations.

These were two key developments that completely unshackled economies, spurring innovation, obliterating trade barriers between nations, driving competition and laying the foundation for globalisation, the next significant milestone in the recent history of the world.

The seeds of globalisation were sown during World War II itself, as different countries came together to fight a common cause and common enemy. The process was accelerated with the end of Cold War and the break-up of the Soviet Union, and soon became a necessary path for countries to follow. 'Globalise or perish' became the ruling mantra, especially for emerging nations in the late 1980s and beyond.

>> QUEST FOR TALENT
In more recent times, the need to globalise has got catalysed by the requirement for skilled talent by certain countries faced with manpower shortages, ageing populations and paucity

Higher Education (The Times of India)
Volume III / 2011

[INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY]

> **In the years to come, while learning organisations will be compelled to think global, they will also have to act local, becoming a part and parcel of the internal milieu**

of people in the working age group, and a surplus of this human power in some other nations, described as the 'demographic dividend.'

Now that globalisation has become a reality, with dissolving geographic barriers, cross-border trade and the world becoming a global village, we are witnessing the phenomenon of glocalisation, succinctly defined as 'think global, act local.'

Liberalisation, privatisation, globalisation and the more recent glocalisation, have had a deep impact on all aspects of business and industry, including sectors such as education. All the stakeholders within the education eco-system, including government policy-makers, academic institutions and private players promoting learning, have been driven by these revolutionary trends.

As a company committed to developing global talent, NIIT Limited has experienced first-hand and walked-the-talk on globalisation as well as glocalisation. The company began its journey across the world early in its history and began 'globalising' and 'glocalising' well before the words were popular. NIIT was born in 1981, at the start of an exciting and interesting decade. What followed was a decade of experiencing India, which in itself was akin to a global eco-system owing to the immense diversity of its culture, its myriad races, castes, languages, regions and sheer expanse.

From Kashmir in the North, to Kanyakumari in the South, from the high reaches of Leh in the Ladakh region, to the colourful Rajasthan. From Gujarat in the West to the hilly East, NIIT and its channel partners blended into the Indian landscape, becoming one with the local ethos.

>> A GLOBAL PATH

This one complete decade of hard experience and exposure to India, where adaptability was key, gave NIIT the impetus to embark on its globalisation and glocalisation initiatives. After wetting its toes in the Indian crucible, NIIT expanded its footprint to 40 countries, becoming an example of a true, global knowledge organisation, relevant in the 'Century of the Mind.'

Backed by our close encounter with India, we entered the US (creating digital content and instructional software for customers in the country), forayed into Singapore (for its university system), engaged with Malaysia (for President

FLASH CARD

The future of our country will be shaped in our classrooms. India has emerged as a leading global IT service provider and this IT competence must be leveraged to enhance delivery of education. Interestingly, there is extensive use of technology in the private school system, but not as much in higher education. The government must, therefore, encourage greater usage of services and technology in the institutions it runs. While experts unanimously agree that there is no substitute for direct teacher-student interaction, a quick, cost-effective and interim measure for increasing enrolment and spread would be through the distance education mode, which involves extensive use of technology. IT can help create an education system that brings all-round efficiency by helping teachers become more effective through access to training and enhanced knowledge database, thus improving the quality of classroom instruction.
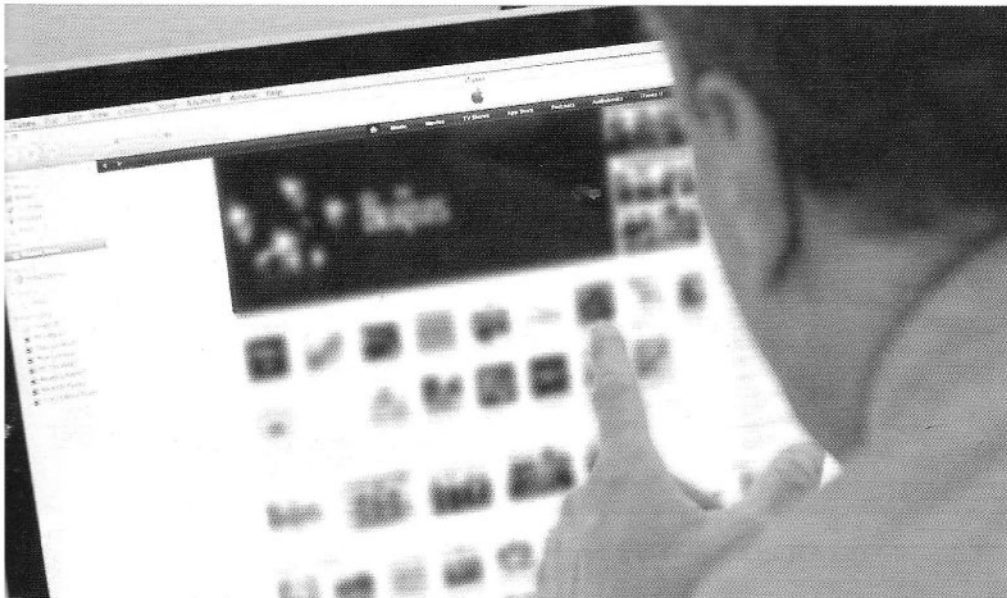
(Source: PricewaterhouseCoopers-'Emerging Opportunities for Private and Foreign Participation in Higher Education,' 2010)
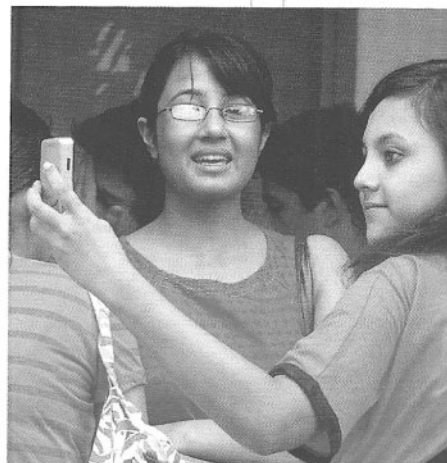
Higher Education (The Times of India)
Volume III / 2011

Mahathir Mohamed's flagship Smart Schools project in the Knowledge Corridor), forayed into Africa and many other countries like China, one of the toughest markets to penetrate.

Having dealt with India's diversity, we were able to grapple with different cultures, social structures, education systems, policy and regulatory frameworks and managed to deal with these variances innovatively.

In the Middle East, for instance, we set up classical learning centres, with separate facilities for men and women, which took into account local sensitivities. We partnered with regional entities in Africa, to support entrepreneurial projects in the continent. In China, we embedded the NIIT curriculum and 'NIIT Inside' model in over 100 universities, a feat unheard of, even in India.

We explored different business models, and built a cross-cultural workforce. Where needed, we even made critical acquisitions that strengthened our 'local flavour' and ensured that we contributed to the economy of the nations where we were present.

In 2009, we launched the not-for-profit NIIT University, with a vision of being the leading centre of innovation and learning in emerging areas of the knowledge society, based on four core principles — industry-link, technology-base, research-driven and seamless.

>> WAY FORWARD

In the years to come, just as organisations such as NIIT have convincingly proved, 'glocalisation' will become the norm. While learning organisations will be compelled to think global, as they integrate into the world economy, they will also have to act local, becoming a part and parcel of the internal milieu and facilitating change and growth from the inside.

Glocalisation is certainly the way forward towards building more relevant learning systems across the world, and through them, skilled global talent.

Indian Express, Chennai
January 26, 2011

PADMA VIBHUSHAN

Real heroes
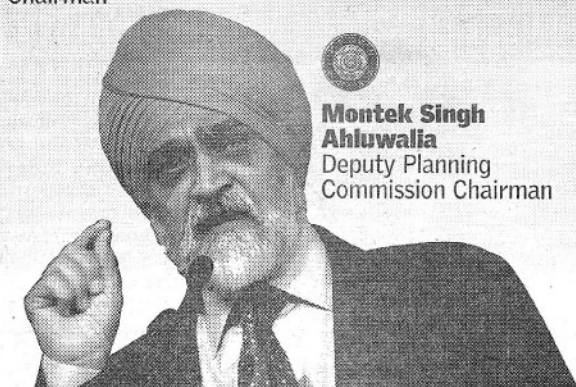
They made India an economic powerhouse

Of the 128 Padma awardees for 2010 announced by the Union home ministry on Tuesday, the trade and industry category was amply represented with captains and drivers of India Inc getting top honours

Vijay Kelkar
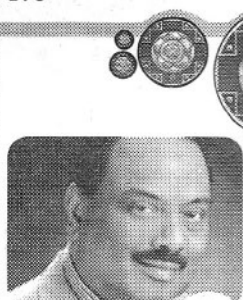13th Finance Comission Chairman

Azim Premji
Wipro

Montek Singh Ahluwalia
Deputy Planning Commission Chairman

PADMA BHUSHAN

Anji Reddi
Dr. Reddy Labs

G V K Reddy
GVK Group

Gopalakrishnan
Infosys

Analjit Singh
Max Group

A Chowdhary
HCL

Y Deveshwar
ITC

R S Pawar
NIIT

C Kochhar
ICICI Bank

PADMA SHRI

Rafeeque Ahmed
Fareeda Group

K R Rao
Orchid Group

Satpal Khattar
NRI

NIIT