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NIIT poised to focus on digital training

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Kolkata: IT education major NIIT is going for a sea change in its skills and talents development business. It is planning a complete brand makeover in the next few years via what it calls the DigiNxt Series, under which it will shift its whole general IT education and training modules towards futuristic technologies like robotics, virtual reality, cyber-security, MEAN stack, big data, design thinking, cloud stack, internet of things (IOT) stack, artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Rahul Patwardhan, chief executive, NIIT Ltd, told **TOI**, "DigiNxt Series is going to transform NIIT's DNA. It is our most important strategy to fuel our targeted 20% EBIDTA growth in the coming years. Of India's over 4 million IT workforce, at least 3.5 million need reskilling in future technologi-

es as companies are leaving no stone unturned to maintain an edge over their global competition. NIIT DigiNxt will also fill the vacuum in the fresher entry path."

NIIT, the IT training pioneer that has trained over 35 million people since 1981, is making its courses shorter, slimmer and smarter (a three-month-long, industry-ready, project-based course will cost Rs 80,000). To begin with, NIIT will offer retail training programmes under the DigiNxt portfolio in its 150 centres to train up to 25,000 professionals a year. The IT education giant has 300 centres across India.

Today, an entry-level and experienced professional with digital skills attracts 50% to 60% higher salaries than those with traditional IT skills. Industry experts also believe, digitally transformed organizations are 26% more profitable than their industry competitors.

The Times of India, Bangalore, April 20, 2016

NIIT shifts focus

A STAFF REPORTER

Calcutta, April 19: NIIT is focusing on technology-based training programmes rather than physical expansion to grow substantially in the current fiscal.

"A digital transformation is happening in the IT industry across the world where companies need people skilled with the latest technology. The current skills will become obsolete soon. Hence, we are eyeing an opportunity in this as the industry is in a desperate need of big data analytics, Internet of Things, robotics, virtual reality and artificial intelligence," Rahul Keshav Patwardhan, CEO of NIIT, told **The Telegraph**.

During 2014-15, the IT training company's revenue stood at Rs 348.54 crore. It is expecting a double-digit growth for the year ended March 2016.

NIIT will be offering 17 programmes by the end of this fiscal under their DigiNxt brand to create a job-ready talent pool for the IT industry.

Of these, three will be launched by May in 150 centres. The company has 350 centres nationally with a faculty base of over 3,000.

"IT giants such as TCS, Wipro and Infosys will need talent with updated skills and no university is focusing on these programmes. In fact, none in the private sector is teaching this. So, we will focus solely on these programmes to grow rather than on adding more centres," he said.

The IT industry, which is estimated to be over \$130 billion in 2014-15, employs over 3.5 million people.

The Telegraph, Kolkata
April 20, 2016

Programmes from NIIT in Digital Transformation

OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: NIIT has revolutionised the IT training and education landscape by introducing pioneering programmes in Digital Transformation. The company will now offer futuristic programs like MEAN Stack, Big Data & Data Sciences Stack, Design Thinking, Cloud Stack, Internet of Things (IoT) Stack, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Robotics and Virtual Reality, Cyber-Security, under the DigiNxtSeries brand umbrella.

Through this significant move NIIT aims to totally re-align the skills and career group to the changing future-skill-sets requirement of the industry to help create job-ready talent pool for the fast evolving global economy.

India, with a strong technology ecosystem of MNC R&D centers, service providers, IT global in-house centers and startups, is well placed to play a key role in the digital era. Indian talent can potentially power the digital transformation for enterprises around the world, and become a moon-shot economy. According to a survey, India is home to a digitally ready talent pool of 500,000 engineers suitable to execute digital transformation projects. This is expected to increase to over a million engineers trained in digital transformation technologies by 2020. Owing to this massive growth in demand, already today any entry-level and experienced professional with Digital Transformation Skills attracts 50 per cent to 60 per cent higher salaries than those with traditional IT skills.

Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd said, "We pioneered the category of IT Training in India way back in 1981. Having trained over 35Mn people in IT over the last 34 years, we expanded our expertise to other sectors as well and have been instrumental in creating trained workforce as per evolving industry needs".

Hans India, Hyderabad
April 29, 2016

NIIT launches new courses to train 20,000 students in IoT, robotics, VR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hyderabad

SKILLS and talent development firm NIIT aims to train about 20,000 students this year on future technologies like internet of things (IoT), robotics and virtual reality (VR) to meet the changing skill set requirement of various industries.

The firm will launch the new courses from next month to be offered from its centres and later extend them to engineering colleges.

"We have been a global leader in skills and talent development. Once again, we

want to revolutionise the landscape by introducing these pioneering programmes. Looking at the digital transformation across industry verticals, we want to create a talent pool that is equipped with skill sets required," NIIT president (global skills and careers group) Prakash Menon told PTI.

These programmes will cover Java Stack, Mean Stack, Big Data and Data Sciences Stack, Cloud Stack, IoT Stack, robotics and VR, he added. "India, with a strong technology ecosystem of MNC R&D centres, service providers, IT global in-house centres and startups, is well placed to play key role in the

Initiatives

- NIIT will launch new courses from 150 centres and later expand them to engineering colleges

- The focus of these programmes is building products rather than software

- This will increase to over a million engineers trained in digital transformation technologies by 2020

digital era. Our aim is to train about 20,000 people in the first year," he said.

NIIT will roll out 12-14 week courses from 150 cen-

tres and later expand them to other centres. The fees starts at about Rs 25,000.

"The focus of the courses is building products rather than software. The students will be required to work on two projects for the course," Menon said.

This is expected to increase to over a million engineers trained in digital transformation technologies by 2020.

"Owing to this growing demand, entry-level and experienced workforce with Digital Transformation Skills are attracting higher salaries as well compared to those with traditional IT skills," he said.

Financial Chronicle, New Delhi, April 18, 2016

NIIT revamps courses, eyes \$500m biz in 5 yrs

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Kolkata: IT education major NIIT is going for sea change in its skills and talents development business model to become a \$500 million IT training behemoth in five years through a complete brand makeover via DigiNxt Series. The company is all set to take the first-mover's advantage in digital transformation (DT) category and wants to shift its whole general IT education and training modules towards futuristic technologies like Robotics, Virtual Reality, Cyber-Security, MEAN Stack, Big Data, Design Thinking, Cloud Stack, Internet of Things (IoT) Stack, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in three-four years' time.

Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd, told TOI, "DigiNxt Series is going to transform NIIT's DNA. It is the most important strategy to fuel our targeted 20% EBIDTA growth in the coming years. Of India's current over 4 million IT workforce, at least 3.5

million need reskilling in future technologies as companies are keeping no stone unturned to maintain an edge over their global competition. NIIT DigiNxt will also fill the vacuum on the fresher entry path."

NIIT, the IT training pioneer since 1981 having trained over 35 million people, is making its courses shorter, slimmer and smarter (a three-month-long, industry-ready, project-based course will cost Rs 80,000. To being with, the Rs 1000 crore IT education gi-

BRAND BOOST

ant will now offer retail training programmes under the DigiNxt portfolio in its 150 centres to train up to 25,000 professionals a year. The company has 300 centres across India.

"But the demand for Digital Transformation Skills is much bigger than the supply. By 2020, we have a target to train one million people in DT space," said Patwardhan. The company is also investing big energy on R&D space for innovation, intellectual property and product creation in IT training space and has set up a 50-member top-level StackRoute Lab in Bengaluru.

According to a survey, India is home to a digitally ready talent pool of 500,000 engineers suitable to execute DT projects. This is expected to increase to over a million engineers trained in DT technologies by 2020. Owing to this massive growth in demand, any entry-level and experienced professional with DT skills attracts 50% to 60% higher salaries than those with traditional IT skills. Industry experts also believe, digitally transformed organizations are 26% more profitable than their industry competitors. Global Spending on DT technologies is expected to cross \$2.1 billion by 2019. By 2020, almost 50% of IT budgets will be tied to DT initiatives.

Prakash Menon, president (global skills & careers group), NIIT Ltd, said, "DigiNxt is tailor-made and we are getting huge response from the corporates." The company has tied up with industry majors like ICICI Bank, IFBI, Genpact and inked a joint venture with NSDC for NIIT YuvaJyoti Ltd.

NIIT's Corporate Learning Group, Skills and Careers Group, and School Learning Group earn 60%, 32% and 8% of its revenue respectively.

The Times of India, Kolkata, April 20, 2016

NIIT retail training brand boon to IT service firms

Diginxt being launched in Chennai today

TE RAJA SIMHAN

Chennai, April 17

Diginxt, the new retail training brand from NIIT Ltd, will help information technology service companies hire people with skills in digital technologies. It will be launched in Chennai tomorrow.

It will offer a series of programmes such as Java Stack, Mean Stack, Big Data & Data Sciences Stack, Cloud Stack, Internet of Things Stack, Robotics and Virtual Reality under the Digital Transformation umbrella, Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT, which provides talent development service, told BusinessLine.

The programme is targeted at people with science, technology, engineering and mathematics background and having some basic computer course in their under-graduate degree.

They will be trained for three to four months with a project-based methodology so that they are industry-ready from day one in new digital skills.

Retraining

"We thought of doing a pilot, but the industry said we need people now and we cannot wait," he said.

There are 3.5 million people in the IT services industry who have been working on a range of technologies especially on applications that are going through a substantial change. Companies with 1.50 lakh or 2 lakh employees have to scramble to retrain a very large percentage of their workforce on new digital technologies in the front end and back end.

The challenge of speed and volume of complete retraining is an opportunity for NIIT.

The right time

The new offering will trigger a revival of IT services for NIIT. The timing is perfect and the market is looking for this kind



Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd. BY JYOTHI

of ready-to-recruit people. NIIT launched this partly in China last year. "We have experience of how to operate and deliver

the programme. The task is to communicate to engineering graduate students," he said.

Apart from retraining NIIT

will partner with institutions to offer the programme in the seventh and eighth semesters digital curriculum.

NIIT has about 280 partners (30 own and 250 franchisees).

The Diginxt will be rolled by around 150 partners as some of them are not connected by satellite network and some are in small towns where there is not much of recruitment population for this kind of skills.

Profit advantage

According to industry experts, digitally transformed organisations are 26 per cent more profitable than their industry competitors. Global spending on digital transformation technologies is expected to cross \$2.1 billion by 2019.

By 2018, around 35 per cent of IT resources will be spent to support the creation of new digital revenue streams, and by 2020, almost 50 per cent of IT budgets will be tied to digital transformation initiatives.

All these indicate that the digital transformation is going to drive the next phase of growth in the IT industry, according to information provided by NIIT.

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi, April 18, 2016

20,000 students to get training in IoT, robotics, VR

Press Trust of India

Skills and talent development firm NIIT aims to train about 20,000 students this year on future technologies like Internet of Things (IoT), robotics and virtual reality (VR) to meet the changing skill set requirement of various industries.

The company will launch the new courses from next month to be offered from its centres and later extend them to engineering colleges later.

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PRAKASH MENON, NIIT president (Global Skills and Careers Group)

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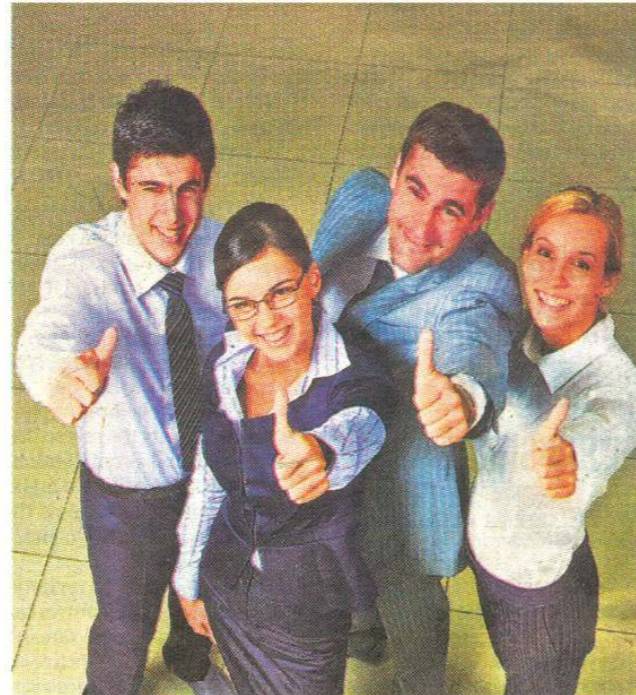
These programmes will cover Java Stack, Mean Stack, Big Data and Data Sciences Stack, Cloud Stack, IoT Stack, robotics and VR, he added.

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about 20,000 people in the first year," he said.

NIIT will roll out 12-14 week courses from 150 centres and

later expand them to other centres and engineering colleges as well. The fees starts at about ₹25,000.



Hindustan Times, Chandigarh, April 20, 2016

New programmes

The NIIT, has introduced pioneering programmes in digital transformation and is offering courses like MEAN Stack, Big Data and Data Sciences Stack, Design Thinking, Cloud Stack, Internet of Things Stack, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Robotics and Virtual Reality, Cyber-Security, under the DigiNxt Series brand umbrella. The aim is to re-align the skills and career group to the changing future-skill-sets requirement to help create job-ready talent pool for the fast evolving global economy.

According to a survey, India is home to a digitally ready talent pool of 5 lakh engineers suitable to execute digital transformation projects. This is expected to increase to over a million engineers trained in digital transformation technologies by 2020. Any entry-level and experienced professional with digital transformation skills attracts 50 to 60 per cent higher salaries than those with traditional IT skills. Digital transformation is going to drive the next phase of growth in the IT industry.

Pioneer, Lucknow, April 21, 2016

NIIT opens institute in China

Beijing, April 5

NIIT, which has trained thousands of Chinese students in the last two decades, today opened its new training institute in the country to train manpower for the nation's cloud-based data centre. The institute was formally inaugurated by India's Deputy Ambassador to China Bala Bhaskar in Guizhou province along with NIIT global CEO Rahul Patwardhan and top local officials. The MOU for cooperation between NIIT and Guizhou was signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to China last year. The training institute will help provide manpower for the big cloud data centre being set up by China in the province which will store vast amount of data from China and the world, Patwardhan told PTI. PTI

Hindu Business Line, Bengaluru, April 06, 2016

School Assistance Apps a Class Apart

Such apps gaining popularity as parents and schools turn to technology for enhancing safety of children and improving administration

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New Delhi: Rachna and Satish Jha can now track their 10-year-old daughter when she's on her way back from Greenwood International School in Bengaluru. The parents don't normally monitor the school bus bringing their daughter home, but the mobile application Northstar comes in handy in case the journey gets prolonged due to a traffic jam.

Such apps are gaining popularity as parents and schools turn to technology for enhancing safety of children and improving administration. Just as tutor apps have attracted the interest of venture capitalists, a number of startups has come up to offer services to schools, a not-for-profit sector in India.

These companies are coming up with apps around the school ecosystem and have managed to attract funding too, providing services ranging from calendar planning for students, taking attendance with a swipe on the phone and even building tools to help collect fees from parents online.

"The needs of today are so different from that even 10 years ago. Traffic on the roads is bad and the law and order situation has worsened. A number of third-party platforms are relevant for school students when it comes to safety as well as to organise school data and create institutional memory," said Sandeep Hooda, co-founder of Gurgaon-based Vega Schools.

SCHOOL BUS TRACKING APPS

AppAlert, Trackschoolbus and Northstar are some such apps which allow real-time tracking of school buses with roll-call capability. AppAlert recently raised ₹6 crore from

angel investors based out of Delhi and competes with the other two apps to provide real-time tracking of school buses including what stop the bus is at when you check it.

Bobbie H Kalra and Shyam Ramamurthy of the company that launched Northstar recommend that schools reward bus drivers who are able to finish their trips on time so as to encourage healthy competition and safe driving.

According to Mumbai's EuroSchool, which uses bus safety technology, such apps have helped parents and the school administration ensure safe carriage of children. "The availability of a live feed of the bus commute also ensures safety of children inside the bus and helps us monitor and correct any shortcoming," said Vikas Phadnis, trustee at EuroSchool Education Trust.

PARENT-TEACHER ENGAGEMENT PLATFORMS

A Bengaluru-based app company Educhat emulates the Whatsapp model for schools, allowing teachers, parents and students to stay connected and turn every classroom into a safe and secure online community. "Communication between parents and schools is a big problem and sometimes parents even have to wait an entire day to meet institution heads. With the app, parents have direct access to the principal as well as teachers," said Chandher Prakash Garg, who has developed Educhat.

The free of cost model for both parents and teachers engages 4,200 schools using its mobile and web platforms. The company plans to scale up by selling students customised higher education solutions if they optionally want to take that up. The company received funding even before launching the venture but

Apps for School Children

- App makers coming up with offerings to assist schools and parents
- App Alert, Track school bus and Northstar allow real-time tracking of school buses with roll-call capability
- Educhat, MyLy help schools communicate better with parents
- Globally, education is the second-largest industry after healthcare
- Such apps gaining popularity as parents and schools turn to technology for enhancing safety of children and improving administration
- Some apps lighten burden of teachers, students by providing tablets with school books
- Education remains not-for-profit sector in India

The availability of a live feed of the bus commute also ensures safety of children inside the bus and helps us monitor and correct any shortcoming

VIKAS PHADNIS
Trustee at EuroSchool Education Trust

Garg did not disclose the amount.

Earlier this year, Jaipur-based co-founders of MyLy app, Gaurav Mundra and Madhup Bansal, raised seed funding of \$100,000 (about ₹67 lakh). This app enables teachers to remind parents via Google calendars about the events taking place at school, upload videos and photographs from events that have gone by and even take attendance. MyLy will go live next month with a tool that allows parents to pay the fee to the school as well as facilitate schools in this process.

In Mumbai, Emissio's creators Kumail Amiruddin and Mazahir Mandasaurwala, who work with 180 schools across the world and 40 in India, were convinced that news was never reaching parents via the means of a circular.

"When we were young, we made paper planes out of school circulars and that was the end of the story," said Amiruddin. Today, the company is backed by

Cox & Kings to promote its app solution to schools where six core functions are taken care of including calendars, photographs, messages, PDFs and links that can be sent across. The school involved has to send simple messages through the app.

The business model is an average per student subscription fee of Rs 250 rupees per year that includes orientation to the app. Emissio engages 800 students on average per school.

But developers have their concerns about competition. "This is a copycat market since conceptually it is easy to build such apps. The real challenge is to execute the job well," said Amiruddin.

ENRICHING TEXTBOOKS

Ignitor, a learning platform, is literally reducing the "burden" of students. The app helps educational institutes procure quality textbooks and a software plat-

form and relevant content bundle including digital textbooks, animations, etc.

Eduator charges the school, which may in turn charge parents as part of its fees. The company charges per student licence for the application software in a yearly subscription model priced at ₹2,000-6,000 depending on the content and syllabus.

It currently works with Modern School on Delhi's Barakhamba Road, Delhi Public School in Faridabad and Indus World School Gurgaon, among others, to get tablet brands such as Samsung and Lenovo or brands like Microsoft and has tied up with publishers such as McGraw Hill Education Pearson, Oxford University Press and S Chand and more. It has 80,000 subscribers from more than 110 campuses in India.

Last year, Hyderabad Angels, a network of angel investors focused on early-stage businesses, exited education startup Eduator Technologies with substantial returns.

At Mumbai's Oberoi International School, a similar international app by the name SeeSaw is used on tablets. With this, student work can be shared with classmates and parents or published to a class blog, giving students an audience for their work and offering parents a personalised window into their child's learning.

SEE COLLECTION THE NEXT BIG THING

NIIT has an app called Quick School, developed for schools to manage information spanning all functional requirements such as fee collection, report card generation, payroll, admissions, inventory management and transportation. It also has the unique feature of modules which facilitate the implementation of CCE (Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation) guidelines.

NIIT

On a learning curve

The company's shift in focus to corporate training is showing results

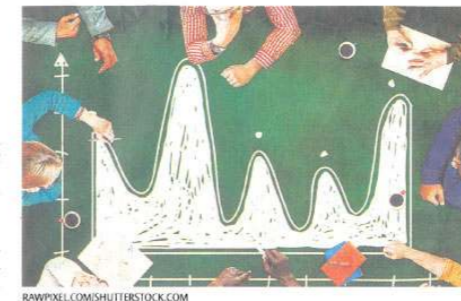
MEERA SIVA

When the market hits turbulent patches, investors typically turn to companies in defensive sectors. One such choice, for those with a long-term perspective, is NIIT, an education service provider. The company offers computer education and training to corporates, schools and individual clients.

While revenue stagnated in the past three years, the recent shift in focus – from the government school segment to corporate training – should help drive revenue and profit growth in the next few years. The company's strong balance sheet – with debt at 0.2 times equity – also provides comfort. The stock currently trades at 13 times FY17 Bloomberg consensus earnings. Investors can buy the NIIT stock, given the company's improving revenue and earnings outlook.

Shift in focus

NIIT has consciously shifted away from government schools



to focus on corporate learning and skills development. In the December 2015 quarter, revenue from the school segment fell 33 per cent and contributed only 3 per cent to the overall income.

There were a few reasons to shift focus away from this segment. One, the receivables cycle is very long; ₹140 crore of receivables are due from the government currently. Two, the business is capex heavy and returns are depressing.

The number of government school clients has been on a steady decline, from the peak of over 15,000 in 2009-10 to about 3,700 currently.

The company plans to exit the

government and other capex-heavy school services business segment as these contracts end (by 2018-19). It will focus on asset-light, cloud-based solutions for the 2,500 private school clients.

The school business has also been carved out into a separate subsidiary and the company plans to leverage the NIIT brand name.

The revenue shift is already boosting the company's overall margin and profit. In the nine months of 2015-16, operating profit jumped 58 per cent Y-o-Y to ₹58 crore, even as revenue increased 4.7 per cent to ₹768 crore. The management expects non-capex intensive services to

grow at 10-15 per cent over the next two years.

Robust corporate revenue

NIIT's corporate learning segment, which contributes 60 per cent of the overall revenue, grew 17 per cent in the December 2015 quarter. International service, especially in Europe, contributed about half of this segment's revenue.

Orders in the nine months of 2015-16 rose 28 per cent Y-o-Y to \$78 million. The company has 27 global customers and revenue visibility of \$195 million from these customers over a three-to-five-year period.

In the corporate learning segment, the management is confident of sustaining a margin of 12 per cent and growing revenue at 15 per cent annually in the next two years.

Skill segment recovery

NIIT's Skills and Career Group, which contributes about a third of total revenue, has been witnessing a turnaround.

Revenue from this segment, which has been on a decline over the last few years, has been on an uptrend over the last three quarters. In the December 2015 quarter, revenue increased 3 per cent

compared with the same quarter a year ago. The company has been consolidating its operations by reducing seat capacity, headcount and exiting unprofitable international locations.

The company is adding new specialisations in IT, such as big data and business analytics; its Beyond-IT courses such as retail sales enablement and finance are also seeing good traction. In October 2015, NIIT.tv, an internet TV portal to offer skill-based live and on-demand courses digitally, was launched.

These operational changes and new initiatives should aid revenue and profit growth in this segment. NIIT holds 23.74 per cent stake in software company NIIT Technologies.

In the nine months of 2015-16, higher earnings from its associates and joint ventures as well as lower depreciation expenses boosted the net profit of NIIT by four times Y-o-Y to ₹50 crore. Net margin improved to 6.5 per cent, from 1.8 per cent in the same period.

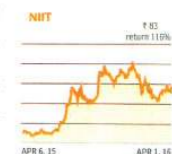
Margins are likely to sustain at these levels or improve over the next few years as the company moves to an asset-light model and focuses on the high-margin corporate learning segment.



- Improving revenue and earnings outlook
- Corporate learning to aid margin
- Skill development to boost growth

Did you know?

NIIT was named 'India's Most Trusted Training Brand' by Trust Research Advisory four years in a row



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION VENTURE

The NIIT announced the launch of GNIIT Digital Transformation (DT) — a path-breaking GNIIT programme that equips college students to ride the wave of digital transformation — the process of shifting from traditional approach to new ways of working and thinking using digital, social, mobile and emerging technologies.

The new GNIIT-DT is

exclusively available for Cloud and Mobile Software Engineering — Java specialisation and will be offered across all synchronised learning technology.

Speaking on the occasion Prakash Menon, president, careers business, NIIT Ltd. said: "Over the years NIIT has trained more than a million non-engineering students for software engineering careers.

Today digital transformation skills is the need of the hour in Indian IT industry. Keeping pace with the changing industry requirements, we are upgrading the GNIIT programme by introducing digital transformation. The programme will help groom the non-engineering students aspiring for software engineering careers to achieve their career aspirations."

Pioneer, Chandigarh, May 04, 2016

NIIT has entered into a strategic partnership with edX to redefine the online education space in India. In a notification to the stock exchanges, NIIT said with edX — a non-profit global leader in online learning co-founded by Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology — it will offer a blended learning Massive Open Online Course model that provides an engaging and live interactive learning experience. edX, an open-source learning destination, offers online courses from more than 90 member institutions, composed of both leading global universities, colleges and a diverse group of prominent organisations from around the world. Shares of NIIT surged 3 per cent at ₹83.55 on the BSE.

Hindu Business Line
New Delhi, May 13, 2016

New MOOCs courses

The NIIT and edX, the non-profit global leader in online learning co-founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), entered into a strategic partnership to re-define the online education space in India. Through this partnership NIIT and edX aim to create high-impact learning experiences for learners by offering MOOC model that provides an engaging and live interactive experience that goes much beyond the core MOOC content. The partnership was announced by Rajendra Pawar, chairman

NIIT and Anant Agarwal, CEO edX and MIT professor.

Under this partnership the live synchronous delivery capability and on-ground student servicing capability of NIIT will be combined with the world class MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) provided by edX and its university partners to offer futuristic talent development programmes to learners in India. To start with, programmes aligned to the changing future-skill-sets

requirement of the industry in areas like Programming using Python from MIT, HTML5 from the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), Data Science and Analytics from Columbia University, and Data Science and Engineering with Spark from University of California, Berkeley will be offered jointly by NIIT and edX. These could be availed by students at college, recent graduates or working professionals looking to up skill themselves.

Pioneer, New Delhi, May 18, 2016

NIIT wins best innovator award

THE DELHI-BASED NIIT LTD, A well-known name in digital technology skills and talent development, was conferred the 'Best Innovation Brand in the Education Sector' by an Assocham National Brand Summit & Excellence Awards 2016 jury. Sanjay Zhunzhunwala, chairman, and Shradha Agarwal, co-chairperson of the Assocham Regional Council, presented the award to Shakera Roy, general manager NIIT, at a formal ceremony staged at The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata on April 25.

Speaking on the occasion, **Prakash Menon**, president (global skills and careers) of NIIT Ltd observed: "Over the past 35 years, NIIT has played a pioneering role in shaping the education and training sector through its innovative and industry-aligned career programmes. We continuously strive to design our programmes to match the aspirations of youth with the requirements of industry. This award is a recognition of our efforts and will encourage us to constantly innovate by introducing a diverse range of learning solutions focused on digital transformation."

Education World, National, May 20, 2016

Top training outsourcing company

NIIT Limited, a global leader in skills and talent development has been selected as a 2016 Top 20 Training Outsourcing Company for the ninth year by TrainingIndustry.com. TrainingIndustry.com continually monitors the training marketplace for the best providers of training services and technologies.

"The Top 20 Training Outsourcing Companies list is frequently used as a resource to help you select partners who can provide a comprehensive service suite to support your organization's most strategic learning initiatives," said Doug Harward, CEO, Training Industry, Inc. "These companies represent the leaders in our industry, and are well-equipped to provide your organization with the tools and guidance necessary to meet a broad range of learning services."

The Tribune, New Delhi
April 13, 2016

NIIT Introduces 'Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops'

As part of its strategic focus to offer futuristic courses in IT under the Digital Transformation series, NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development, introduced 'Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops' program. This avant garde program, based on student centred pedagogy of project-based learning, is the first program to be offered by NIIT under the DigiNxt portfolio. The company has recently ventured into Digital Transformation to offer pioneering programs to young aspirants wishing to enter the digital services industry, as well as to IT professionals wishing to reskill themselves for the new digital world. Starting with Java Enterprise Apps with DevOps, the company will gradually shift the whole general IT education and training modules towards futuristic technologies like robotics, IoT, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and machine learning, etc.

Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops will encompass the various aspects of enterprise app development while enabling a learner to implement these aspects through project-based learning methodology. The students are

expected to spend at least 70% of their time on project work during the program. The upcoming batch would be working on two projects- Development of E-Commerce Portal and Collaboration Platform. On successful completion of the three-month program students will be offered 100% placement assistance for Java Enterprise Developer roles by NIIT. Admission to the program are currently open for the first batch starting on May 30, 2016.

Speaking on the launch of the program Prakash Menon, President, Global Skills & Careers Group, NIIT Ltd said, "The emergence of the digital era has presented us with great opportunities as well as unique challenges. While on one hand India has a strong technology ecosystem and can potentially power the digital transformation for enterprises around the world, on the other hand Indian industry is faced with acute shortage of workforce trained in digital transformation technologies. To cater to this growing demand NIIT is committed to offer a series of industry-aligned training program in digital transformation, Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops being the first in the series."

Data Quest, National, May 31, 2016

IIM-A to launch e-learning courses

fe Bureau

Ahmedabad, June 1: Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) is all set to launch e-learning programmes over the next

few months, after taking cognisance of the fact that management education is going through dramatic changes, especially with regard to infusion of technology challenging the traditional con-

tent delivery model.

The institute has tied up with NIIT and Hughes to deliver education in the form of synchronous studio-to-classroom programmes. IIM-A will be launching

both distance learning and blended learning programmes through this initiative. Several executive education courses will also be part of this e-learning model.

Financial Express, Kolkata, June 02, 2016

E-LEARNING

EdX, a non-profit organisation in online learning co-founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Tech-

nology, tied up with NIIT to create high-impact learning experiences by offering a blended learning MOOC model going beyond the core course content.

The Times of India, New Delhi, May 16, 2016

India's NIIT to train 50,000 China students on 'Big Data'

ATUL ANEJA

GUIYANG (SOUTHWEST CHINA): At a brand new industrial park in southwest China, where buildings still smell of fresh paint and masonry, the National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) is gearing up to train 50,000 Chinese students over the next five years.

"We are developing the infrastructure to meet the upcoming challenge," says Santy, NIIT's point person, at his office in the Gui'an New Area.

The training contract was signed on the sidelines of China's 'Big Data' conference and exhibition at Guiyang. Separately, the company sealed an agreement with the provincial government to establish a Big Data Talent Research Centre in Guiyang "to enhance innovation and research".

Cyber landmark

The once impoverished city of Guiyang, the provincial capital of the southwestern Guizhou province — well known in history for its role during Mao Zedong's Long March — is now fast emerging as one of the most prominent landmarks in China's cyberspace. The Gui'an New Area is at the heart of the new enterprise.

Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang, who addressed a conference last week, formally endorsed Guiyang as the country's 'Big Data' hub.

Analysts say this endorsement dovetails with China's transition from a low-end manufacturing hub to an advanced digital economy based on high-end consumption and production.

Mr. Li had earlier held a meeting with top cyber entrepreneurs, which included Michael Dell, CEO of Dell computers; Terry Gou of the Foxconn Technology Group; and Rahul Patwardhan, NI-



EQUIPPING FUTURE ENGINEERS: An NIIT class in progress at the Gui'an New Area, Guiyang; (below) Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang. — PHOTOS: ATUL ANEJA, REUTERS



Contract was signed at Guiyang, a city that Premier Li has endorsed as a 'Big Data' hub

the production of coal, fertilisers, tyres and the renowned Maotai liquor, which caught global attention when it was served by China's former Prime Minister, Zhou En-lai to U.S. President Richard Nixon, during his the latter's famous Beijing visit in 1972.

"China is accumulating massive amount of hardware and on account of the proposed scale, major shortages of trained programmers are inevitable. That is where we, as digital trainers, come in," says Kamal Dhuper, NIIT's country head, in a conversation with *The Hindu*.

Mr. Dhuper points out that the company can cope with the heavy work load as well as the challenge posed by the perceived Chinese language barrier. "Most of our trainers are Chinese so language is not an issue. Besides we actively follow Synchronous Learning Technology. This allows trainers to connect with multiple locations in real time," he observed.

IT's global head.

'Big Data' refers to a massive accumulation of information, siphoned from multiple sources and domains, which can then be analysed to make informed decisions. Consequently, Guiyang will host server storage farms, intertwined with an army of engineers, who can cull out useful information from the vast data reservoirs that are being established in the city.

Several factors have gone Guiyang's way to emerge as China's 'Big Data' core. The climate here is mild, power is plentiful and cost of establishing businesses lower than in China's more developed parts along the coast. Besides, the local government has been relentless in pushing the hi-tech industry.

The provincial economy has so far been dependent on

Hindu, New Delhi, June 02, 2016

Mobile to break the barriers

There are a few brands that are close to women's heart. One of them is Fair and Lovely. After working closely with women and gaining experience in empowering them and giving them quality education for 13 years now, Fair & Lovely Foundation recognised that some of the key barriers to women access-



ing higher education and job skills are physical distances to quality institutes and cultural norms. The company has partnered with NIIT Limited and Liqid English Edge to support the Government's 'Skill India' initiative and achieve its sustainability objectives. The company plans to launch a women-focused mobile skilling platform via the foundation that leverages NIIT and Liqid English Edge courses, thereby taking forward the brand promise of mak-

ing a meaningful difference to the lives of women by empowering them to become self-reliant.

Mobile skill-based courses help women overcome these barriers by allowing them access to training materials anytime, anywhere. The foundation's mobile skilling platform will not only help women achieve their educational and skilling goals through quality courses, it will also offer career guidance and scholarships for online and offline certification.

Indian Express, Hyderabad, June 09, 2016



HUL's Fair and Lovely Foundation partners NIIT and English Edge at the launch of joint initiative.

HUL partners with NIIT, LEE to support 'Skill India' initiative

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 9: Hindustan Unilever, India's largest Fast Moving Consumer Goods Company has partnered with NIIT Limited and Liqid English Edge (LEE) to support the Government's 'Skill India' initiative and achieve its sustainability objectives.

The company plans to launch a women-focused mobile skilling platform via the Fair and Lovely Foundation that leverages NIIT and Liqid English Edge courses, thereby taking forward the brand promise of making a meaningful difference to the lives of women by empowering them to become self-reliant.

With experience of working in women's education for 13 years, Fair & Lovely Foundation recognised that some of the key barriers to women accessing higher education and job skills are physical distances to quality institutes and cultural norms. Mobile skill-based courses help women overcome these barriers by allowing them access to training materials anytime, anywhere. Fair & Lovely Foundation's mobile skilling platform will not only help women achieve their educational and skilling goals through quality courses, it will also offer career guidance and scholarships for online and offline certification.

Announcing the partnership, Sanjiv Mehta, CEO of Hindustan Unilever said, "Empowering

women is a business priority for Unilever. Fair & Lovely Foundation was launched by the organisation with an aim to empower women through education and support their quest to create an individual identity".

Speaking about the association, Chief Strategy Officer of NIIT Ltd, Udai Singh said, "NIIT has been at the fore front of leveraging technology to make available skill-based training to every digitally connected Indian. NIIT.tv a disruptive innovation, offering over 5400 live and on-demand courses, has removed the barriers of time, place and language, to make skill based training available to every Indian for free. We are now delighted to join hands with consumer goods leader HUL to use our technology platforms to empower the women of our country."

Speaking about the association, CEO of Liqid English Edge, Vivek Agarwal said, "English language and soft skills are essential to gain entry to many skill-based careers especially customer facing roles in retail, beauty and hospitality. These skills are particularly hard to disseminate through physical training centres for lack of quality trainers. We commend HUL for taking responsibility to promote widespread access to English and soft skills education for women on mobile, the most widespread interactive media available in the country today."

Daily Excelsior, Jammu, June 10, 2016

Chinese connection

The National Institute of Information Technology has entered into two strategic agreements in China with the Guiyang Municipal Government and Guizhou



Professional College of Electronics in Gui'An New District, to develop a pool of next generation IT professionals in big data and analytics.

According to the agreement, NIIT will establish a training base under a public-private partnership model with the Guiyang government to conduct IT and big data training for university graduates, working professionals and government employees in Guizhou province. Additionally, NIIT and Guiyang government will establish a Big Data Talent Research Center to enhance innovation and research for scalable talent development methods for IT and big data in China.

NIIT in China works through a unique model called the "NIIT Inside model" under which the Institute's programmes are embedded in the university IT curriculum. Students may pursue a four-year Bachelor degree or a three-year associate degree programme after Class XII in information technology. While the University system continues to teach subjects such as Chinese language and science among others, the IT portion is completely from NIIT. Students get the degree from the university/government and also receive a certificate from NIIT.

The Statesman, Kolkata, June 10, 2016



R K Sharma, chairman NIIT Jammu, being honoured by NIIT Ltd.

NIIT celebrates Silver Jubilee of Jammu Centre

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 10: NIIT Limited, a global leader in skills and talent development, celebrated 25th anniversary of the NIIT Jammu Centre.

On the achievement of this

milestone, R K Sharma, Chairman NIIT Jammu Franchisee Company, was honoured by NIIT Ltd. A memento was given to R K Sharma by Rahul Patwardhan, CEO NIIT Ltd, during a function at New Delhi.

At Jammu NIIT also, a function was organized to commence the month long Silver Jubilee celebrations, during which various activities like Quiz Competition, Display Your Talent, Photo Gallery Display of 25 year long journey, will be held.

Further, NIIT Jammu will give free gifts to every new student taking admission this month and also a Bumper Lucky Draw contest for all its students.

At Jammu function, Rahul Sharma, Managing Director of NIIT Jammu Franchisee and Shakun Sharma, Centre Head NIIT Jammu Gandhi Nagar, were present along with staff and students.

Speaking on the occasion, R K Sharma, Chairman NIIT Jammu Franchisee Company, said that all students, staff and alumni have made the 25 years' journey of NIIT Jammu eventful and a success. This is only beginning. We will continue to offer innovative training programmes backed by modern technology to the youth here in Jammu," he added.

Pertinent to mention that NIIT Jammu has placed more than 8000 students, who pursued GNIIT and other IT Diploma Programmes in corporate houses like Infosys, HCL, Infotech, Reliance, Airtel, IBM Daksh, Berger, Paints and Ericson.

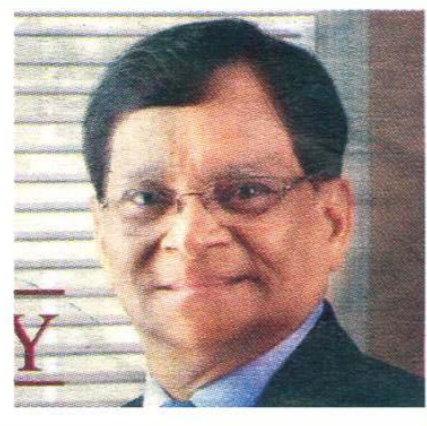
Established in 1991, NIIT Jammu offers new age training programs in Executive Management, Banking and Finance, Digital Marketing and Social Media, Cloud and Mobile Software Engineering, Big Data and Business Analytics, e-Commerce and Business Administration and Cloud Computer and IT Management.

Daily Excelsior, Jammu
June 11, 2016

■ BITS PILANI VC IS NEXT NU PRESIDENT

THE acting vice-chancellor of BITS Pilani, V.S. Rao, has been appointed as the next president of Neemrana-based NIIT University (NU). A doctorate holder in Chemistry, Rao has an in-depth experience in institution building, and an academic record spanning over three decades, according to a statement issued by NU. "Rao's rich experience in

implementing innovative ideas with industry partnership will benefit in leading NU," said Rajendra S. Pawar, chairman NIIT and founder NU. Rao will take charge as NU's new president from July. Known for offering industry-linked programmes, NU has entered into alliances with leading organisations such as ICICI and IBM for its programmes.



Mail Today, New Delhi, June 14, 2016

B.VOC IN SOLAR ENERGY

Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), New Delhi, invites admission to three-year Bachelor of Vocational (BVoc) in Solar Energy course for the academic session 2016-17. The course has been approved by the University Grants Commission under DDU Kaushal Kendra Scheme attached to the Department of Physics, JMI. There are 50 seats in the course including all reserved categories, as per JMI rules.

The course aims at providing the graduates of higher education system to have adequate knowledge and skills for employment and entrepreneurship and to also fulfill the emerging needs of the economy. This course provides an opportunity of exiting the course after completing one year with a diploma (having NSQF Level 5), after completing two years with an advance diploma (having NSQF Level 6) and after completing the three years with BVoc degree (having NSQF Level VII). The candidates belonging to the following categories will be eligible for admission in this course:

- Students, who have already acquired NSQF certification level IV in the industry sector belonging to Solar Energy
- Students who have acquired NSQF certification level IV but may like to change their sector and pursue vocational course in Solar Energy.
- Students should have passed 10+2 level exam (or equivalent) without any background of vocational training and secured 50 per cent marks at the 10+2 (or equivalent) level. Besides, they must have also secured at least 50 per cent marks in Physics and Mathematics separately at the 10+2. The admission will be on merit. Last date to apply is July 15. The first list will be displayed on the JMI website www.jmi.ac.in after July 25, 2016.

DIGITAL MARKETING

NIIT has launched their first interactive live, online course in Digital Marketing. The batch will start on June 26, 2016 onwards and the last date of registration is till June 25,



2016. The programme is offered in association with Digital Marketing Institute (Ireland) and will be available online for the first time. It is the 37th batch of the Professional Diploma in Digital Marketing (PDDM) which is designed for marketing, product, advertising and sales professionals who want to build a career in Digital Marketing. It covers search engine optimisation, search engine marketing, social media marketing, analytics, email marketing and mobile marketing. For more information, visit <http://digitalmarketing.niitcloudcampus.com>.

MARKETING

The Indian School of Business & Finance (ISBF), an affiliate center of the University of London, invites applications from the students for admission in three-year full-time undergraduate honours degree programmes in BSc Economics, BSc Economics and Finance, BSc Economics and Management and BSc Business and Management. The last date to apply is June 30, 2016.

The student will have to go through iMET (ISBF Maths English) entrance exam. IB and A-Level students are exempted from the entrance exam. Selections are made on the basis of a personal interview.

Applicants, who have passed the Class XII exam conducted by CBSE/ISC/State Board/IB/GSCE A-Levels (by May 2016), are eligible to apply. Candidates applying for BSc Economics and BSc Economics and Finance need to have proof of competency in Mathematics (equivalent to Class XII). For other programmes, candidates should be able to competent in Maths (equivalent to Class X). Scholarships are also given for meritorious and deserving students.

For more information, log on to www.isbf.edu.in.

Asian Age, New Delhi, June 14, 2016

Web App Development with MEAN Stack

NIIT recently launched a course in Web App Development with MEAN Stack under the DigiNxt Series. The company has recently ventured into Digital Transformation to offer pioneering programmes to aspirants wishing to enter the digital services industry, as well as to IT professionals wishing to reskill themselves for the new digital world. The programme will use student-centred pedagogy of project-based learning to help them carve successful career in the emerging digital era. Some of the famous web applications like LinkedIn, Netflix, Uber, Paypal, etc. have been built using MEAN Stack.



The programme will enable learners to develop, test and release complete web apps encompassing UI's, Web Server layer, Middleware and Back-end supported by product engineering culture.

The students are expected to spend at least 70 per cent of their time on project work throughout the programme. During the course students will work on two projects — Online Ticket Booking project and Online Cab Booking project.

On successful completion of the 14-week programme students will be offered 100 per cent placement assistance.

Admission to the program for the first batch commenced from June 24, 2016.

Tribune, New Delhi June 29, 2016



The NIIT has announced the 17th National Scholarship in Nigeria to reward meritorious students desirous of building successful careers in the knowledge economy. Scholarships will also be offered for futuristic cutting-edge programmes in digital transformation under digiNxt series — digiNxt MMS, Big Data, Java Enterprises Apps with DevOps, Digital Marketing apart from Revolutionary MMS and other programmes.

Important date: The annual scholarship test will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2016, across the country. For more information, students can visit www.niit.com/nigeria.

Applications are invited for Internships with the UN Global Compact in its New York office. Applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree programme (bachelor or second university degree, or higher) at the time of application and during the internship.

Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program (bachelor's or second university degree, or higher) at the time of application and during the internship; or under some circumstances, appli-

cants may have graduated within less than one year to commence a UN internship.

How to apply: Those interested in pursuing an internship with the UN Global Compact must submit an online application at the UN Careers website. Candidates are strongly recommended to pay attention to the job opening number to make sure that their applications reach the UN Global Compact Office. Please notify the Global Compact Office (info@unglobalcompact.org).

Application deadline: The application deadline for Summer 2016 is June 29, 2016.

University College Dublin, Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School invites applications for GMAT EMBA scholarships.

Eligibility: Must have been admitted to (have applied for, been interviewed and offered a place on) the EMBA programme before they can be considered for any of the above scholarships.

Open to exceptional Irish residents and international candidates who possess a GMAT of 700 or above.

How to apply: There is no separate application process. All successful applicants are automatically considered. These scholarships are merit based.

Application deadline: The last date to apply for this scholarship is June 30, 2016.

Pioneer, New Delhi, June 22, 2016

NIIT & edX partners to redefine online education

NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development, and edX, the non-profit global leader in online learning co-founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) recently entered into a strategic partnership to redefine the online education space in India. They aim to create high-impact learning experiences for learners by offering the next generation Blended Learning MOOC model that provides an engaging and live interactive experience, going much beyond the core MOOC content. edX and NIIT pioneers in their respective domains and have a track record of offering the best education and training experiences to their learners across the globe. Over the last 15 years, NIIT has continuously invested in its Blended Learning delivery capability through innovations such as its Imperia Synchronous Learning Delivery Model and its Cloud Campus™ with



student-centric learning enablers. Under this partnership, the live synchronous delivery capability and on-ground student servicing capability of NIIT will be combined with the world class MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) provided by edX and its university partners to offer futuristic talent development programs to learners in India. Aligned to the changing future skill set requirements of the industry, programs

in areas like Programming using Python from MIT, HTML5 from the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), Data Science and Analytics from Columbia University, and Data Science and Engineering with Spark from University of California, Berkeley will be offered jointly by NIIT and edX for college students, recent graduates and even working professionals to upgrade themselves

CareerConnect, June 2016

EXPERTS OPINE

“Formulate policies in sync with socio-economic realities”

Higher education system in India faces many problems including low level teaching quality, financing of higher education, traditional methods of teaching and supply-demand gap,” says **Dr Rajendra Pandey, President, NIIT University**. In an exclusive interview with **Ritika Arora Bhola**, the expert extensively discusses about quality education, academics, infrastructure, extra-curricular activities, placement cell and faculty, and also talks about government initiatives for higher education



What sets you apart from your counterparts in terms of academics, infrastructure and other extracurricular activities?

NIIT University (NU) is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to build great careers and ensure excellent job opportunities to all its students. The University is developed as an institution of excellence to provide exceptional education based on the four core principles that make learning industry-linked, technology-based, research-driven and seamless.

We aim to provide the best education for its students. Extensive connectedness with industry is the hallmark of NU. Six months or a full semester internship with major corporate houses, industry-sponsored R&D projects, highly experienced mentors, co-curricular and

extra-curricular activities are some of the key features of NU education system.

The University also promotes entrepreneurship platform amongst its students. The University is equipped with state-of-the-art, technology-enabled teaching and a strong research-focused curriculum, some of which originated in NIIT's incubation labs viz. Centre for Research in Cognitive Systems (CRCS) at IIT-Delhi campus. Seamless internet connectivity, world-class faculty, well-equipped labs and libraries, vast sports indoor and outdoor ground, lecture halls and auditoriums are some of the infrastructural amenities that students get at the University. We provide opportunity for sports, meditation, trekking and other extra-curricular activities. NU students have launched a drive called 'Shram-Daan' in an effort to convert the neighbouring barren 'Kali Pahari' to a fertile 'Hari Pahari'. Every student participates in 'Astachal' in the evening at Sunset Theatre, where they are encouraged to meditate and repeatedly reminded of their role in the larger environment that we live in.

How are you bringing in innovation in terms of teaching pedagogy at your college? Please throw light on the management staff and faculty.

NIIT University believes in leveraging technology for:

- Higher order complex thinking
- Making meaning of the study for students
- Improving student's experience and
- Preparing students for futures

Today's classrooms routinely use digital resources for the teaching-learning

“The University is developed as an institution of excellence to provide exceptional education based on the four core principles that make learning industry-linked, technology-based, research-driven and seamless.”

process. With the rise of internet and communication technologies, there is an exponential increase of information, which makes it impossible both for teacher and student to focus on 'taking as much information as possible.' Hence, NU focuses on teaching design and on learning outcomes rather than mere factual details.

At NU, the learning complexity is addressed pedagogically in the course by incorporating a value creating activity-based project in which a team of students with mixed ability levels are challenged, while providing scaffolds and positive environment to be successful. NU recognises well-designed team projects and allows differentiated instruction as well as assessment. NU also encourages faculty to design team engagements that are planned under courses so that students can practice self-directed learning. Last but not the least, another significant connectome implicating insight that literature reports is that the brain connects new information to old. In pursuance of this, NU has experimented with brain-

aligned pedagogic initiatives for team as well as individual learning from real world projects that make 'meaning' to students. This makes learning effective for students. NU has qualified faculty and management staff. They are equipped with domain knowledge and technological skills to practice best teaching-learning and academic administrative practices. NU invests in its people to develop them through workshops, training sessions and encouraging them to pursue higher degrees.

Quality is a matter of serious concern in the higher education scenario of India. Which are the weak points and challenges at present?

The role of higher education in the emerging scenario of knowledge economy is crucial and multifaceted for any country in general and India in particular. There are many basic problems faced by higher education system in India.

- **Lower level of teaching quality:** Our education system faces many quality issues such as lack of faculty, poor quality teaching, traditional teaching methods, outdated and rigid curricula and pedagogy, lack of accountability and quality assurance and separation of research and teaching.
- **Financing of higher education:** It is not feasible for India to make massive state investments in research and development that produced research-led universities in the west such as MIT, University of California, Berkeley in the US or University of

Cambridge in Britain.

- **Traditional methods of teaching:** Professors still stick to those older methods of teaching like board and marker. They don't like to make use of audio-visual aids in teaching. Also, they are not up-to-date with the information available and what global industry demands.
- **Supply-demand gap:** Despite an average growth rate of over seven per cent in the last decade, India's GER in higher education is very low. India needs to drastically increase the number of places at universities and enrolment through distance learning programmes. Over the last decade, the diversity of courses offered by universities and colleges has narrowed, resulting in saturated markets for engineers, technology graduates and MBAs.

According to you, what are the most sought after professional courses being picked by students nowadays?

Firstly, the distinction between 'professional' and non-professional is waning. Students are opting for many different programmes like economics, psychology, law, and animation design, etc. and also preferring computer science, mechanical or electronics engineering.

Do you have any policy expectations from the Government for institutes having professional courses?

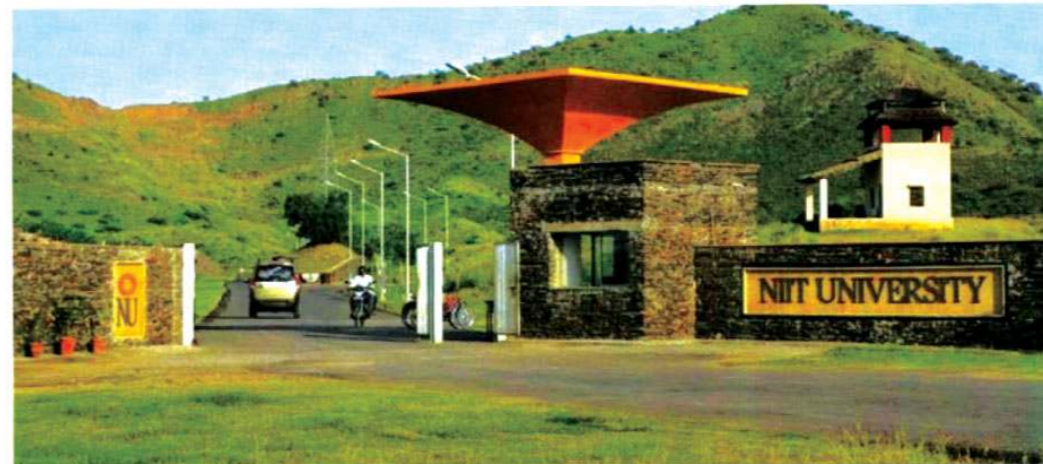
Government should formulate regulations that are in sync with economic and social

“Over the last decade, the diversity of courses offered by universities and colleges has narrowed, resulting in saturated markets for engineers, technology graduates and MBAs.”

realities of the time if it desires expansion of overall education, and higher education in particular.

Placement is a key factor driving admissions in professional institutes nowadays. How does the market scenario look like?

Education as a teaching domain has completely transformed and so has the placement trends. Today, placement week is being plugged out from more campuses than ever before. Many universities promote themselves as a learning centre rather than placement cell. Engineering campuses with large batches have placements sessions running for two semesters or even more. Today, the placement procedures have become more critical. Corporates scouting for students has never been tougher, recruitment tours are getting longer, first-stage elimination tests tougher and interviews longer. Core companies nowadays plan their campus recruitments only after third quarter results. Hence, the slot-wise placement process is fading fast.




**EXPRESS
COMPUTER**


NIIT announces live online course in Digital Marketing

by Express Computer on June 21, 2016

NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development, today announced the launch of their first interactive live, online course in Digital Marketing. The program is offered in association with Digital Marketing Institute (Ireland) and will be available online for the first time. It is the 37th batch of the Professional Diploma in Digital Marketing (PDDM) – a program uniquely designed for current and aspiring marketing professionals, to help them transform into digital marketers of the future. NIIT has already trained more than 1700 students in digital marketing.

The batch will start on 26th June 2016 onwards and the last date of registration is till 25th June 2016.

Today businesses and consumers are shifting their focus to the digital medium and companies are increasingly engaging their consumers through digital platforms. There are 462 Million total Internet users in India and India's digital advertising spending is estimated to reach \$4 billion by 2020. India's digital advertising market has grown at a rate of 33% annually between 2010 and 2015. This indicates a larger shift in focus from traditional to digital marketing mediums. These market trends have created tremendous opportunities for professionals who are equipped with the necessary digital skills.

Speaking on the occasion Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd said, "Aligned to NIIT's strategic focus of developing digital skills ready workforce, the PDDM program is uniquely positioned to meet the changing requirements of the industry. Looking at providing convenience to customers, who don't want to waste time traveling to the centres, we have launched the first of the series of live online interactive course. The first live online PDDM program will be delivered through a unique pedagogy which is a mix of live expert lectures, case discussions, quizzes and projects for holistic learning. With DMI's expertise in certification and training we aim to create a globally competitive workforce for the digital marketing industry."

The Professional Diploma in Digital Marketing is designed for Marketing, Product, Advertising and Sales Professionals who want to build a career in Digital Marketing. It covers all the major areas of Digital Marketing including Search Engine Optimization, Search Engine Marketing, Social Media Marketing, Analytics, Email Marketing and Mobile Marketing. The program content is created by DMI and reviewed by DMI's Syllabus Advisory Council, comprising of the leading digital brands like Google, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn etc.

The Professional Diploma in Digital Marketing Program is led by industry specialists for in-depth understanding of the program. The Program Director is Dr Neeraj Sharma, who holds a PhD in Management from IIT Delhi and a Masters in Human Resource Management from IIT Kharagpur. He has facilitated the education of over 25000 working professionals. The Batch Faculty, Professor Ratan KK, an IIM Ahmedabad alumnus, is also a visiting faculty teaching eMarketing at IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Udaipur and other top business schools. He is an entrepreneur and digital marketing practitioner with over 3800 hours of Digital Marketing training experience. The program will be taught through a unique pedagogy which includes expert live online classes along with case studies in each module complemented by Guest Sessions from Industry Experts for in-depth understanding. The live online platform has been created in such a manner that the students will have a better experience than that at the classroom. The candidates can access the expert learning sessions from the convenience of their home, direct on their device with a good broadband connection.

The candidates can ask questions to the expert and get their doubts cleared. They will have access to various learning resources and can also have discussions with peers and answer the assessments online thus giving them the same experience as that of a classroom training but now direct to their device, at their convenience at home.

<http://computer.financialexpress.com/news/niit-announces-live-online-course-in-digital-marketing/18039/>


BusinessLine

NIIT announces the launch of the first interactive live online course in Digital Marketing

June 20, 2016: Business Wire India

33 hours of Live, Expert-led lecture and a unique pedagogy using Project Based Learning and Case Studies

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For more information visit: <http://digitalmarketing.niitcloudcampus.com>

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Digital Marketing Institute (DMI) is a global leader in training professionals in digital marketing. To date, over 15,000 people in 80 countries have graduated with a DMI qualification, making it the most widely taught digital certification standard in the world.

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The candidates can ask questions to the expert and get their doubts cleared. They will have access to various learning resources and can also have discussions with peers and answer the assessments online thus giving them the same experience as that of a classroom training but now direct to their device, at their convenience at home.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/business-wire/niit-announces-the-launch-of-the-first-interactive-live-online-course-in-digital-marketing/article8752167.ece>



NIIT.tv - A Disruptive Innovation by NIIT Receives "Best Online Education Platform" Award at Indian Education Awards 2016

New Delhi, Delhi, India

NIIT.tv - a disruptive innovation by NIIT has been awarded as the "Best Online Education Platform" at the 6th Annual Indian Education Congress & Awards organized by Franchise India, India's leading Franchising publication. NIIT.tv that was launched in October last year is a digital learning initiative that brings skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice. P V D Ravi Kiran, Senior Vice President, Synchronous Learning Technology, NIIT Ltd. and Vijay Kumar Srinivasan, Senior Vice President, Technology Strategist & Architect, NIIT Ltd received the award at an event organised in the capital city.

The 6th Annual Indian Education Congress & Awards is one of the biggest thought leadership forum where education professionals, institutes, government bodies, financial institutions and schools come together and take up various issues related to Indian Education Industry. Also, the Indian Education Awards are one of the most prestigious awards that recognize excellence in education sector. The event aims to connect the entire gamut of education industry.

Speaking on the occasion, **Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer NIIT Ltd**, said, *"We are extremely pleased to receive the Best Online Education Platform Award for NIIT.tv, at the Annual Indian Education Awards 2016. It is a great honour for us that NIIT.tv has been recognised in such a short span of time. This award reiterates our belief that NIIT.tv is a technological and pedagogical force multiplier that will help us create skilled workforce across multiple sectors, to cater to the workforce requirements of the industry."*

He further added, *"NIIT has been at the forefront of skills and talent development not just in India, but around the world. We have been working continuously with a vision to offer viable career options and cutting-edge skill based training to every digitally connected citizen of India, by removing the four constraints of time, space, language and money. This award is a strong reaffirmation of our belief that Technology is fundamental to our growth."*

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT for the education space, delivers for the very first time, skill-based live courses as well as on-demand courses to the masses, through the digital medium. It is an innovative initiative providing video based online training for free, which can be accessed from anywhere, anytime, any device (Desktop, Tab, Mobile), Windows or Android having access to Internet. NIIT.tv app is also available for Android devices which can be downloaded from Google Play store for free. Launched on October 6, 2015, NIIT.tv already has a reach in over 160 countries which includes 2000+ cities and 6 continents (other than Antarctica) with a total of over 240,000 registered users, and a total offering of 5400+ Live and On-demand courses.

The recent launch of Free CBSE Board Exam preparatory live classes by NIIT.tv for 10th and 12th standard students has been highly appreciated by the users. The Fast Track Refresher Courses were designed to help prepare students score higher grades in their CBSE Board exams. The courses were made available for free for the students and a total of 44000 students availed the classes.

Over the last 35 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committed to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum.

Additionally, NIIT.tv actively encourages and invites every socially minded Indian, Corporation and NGO to generously share their valuable knowledge and Open Source Training Material by registering as a Trainer/Content Partner on NIIT.tv and uploading their course description, videos and courseware for a guaranteed free lifelong learning benefit.

http://www.ptinews.com/pressrelease/18796_press-subNIIT-tv---A-Disruptive-Innovation-by-NIIT-Receives-Best-Online-Education-Platform-Award-at-Indian-Education-Awards-2016



NIIT Launches Course in Web App Development with MEAN Stack under Digital Transformation Series

New Delhi, Delhi, India - Business Wire India

--To enable students gain end-to-end programming skills to launch their own web and mobile apps

--To create full-stack web developers for start-ups and product engineering organizations

NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development, today launched a course in Web App Development with MEAN Stack under the DigiNxt Series. The company has recently ventured into Digital Transformation to offer pioneering programs to young aspirants wishing to enter the digital services industry, as well as to IT professionals wishing to reskill themselves for the new digital world. The cutting-edge program will use the student-centred pedagogy of project-based learning to help them carve a successful career in the emerging digital era. Some of the famous web applications like LinkedIn, Netflix, Uber, Paypal, etc. have been built using MEAN Stack.

MongoDB, Express, AngularJS, Node (MEAN) represents a group of open source technologies which are known to synergize well together, thereby empowering students to launch their own web and mobile apps. The program will enable learners to develop, test and release complete Web Apps encompassing UI's, Web Server layer, Middleware and Back-end supported by Product Engineering culture. The students are expected to spend at least 70% of their time on project work throughout the program. During the course students will work on two projects - Online Ticket Booking project and Online Cab Booking project. On successful completion of the 14 weeks' program students will be offered 100% placement assistance. Admission to the program for the first batch will start from June 24, 2016.

Speaking on the occasion **Mr. Prakash Menon, President, Global Skills & Careers Group, NIIT Ltd** said, *"Today Digital Transformation is going to drive the next phase of growth in the IT Industry. In fact, the process has already begun and is rapidly accelerating, as both IT companies as well as IT departments of large corporations are scrambling to address the acute shortage of digitally skilled professionals."*

He further added, *"We at NIIT with over 35 years of experience and keen understanding of the changing skills requirement of the industry, are committed to offer a series of industry-aligned training programs in digital transformation. To cater to this need we recently launched, Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops, which has received an overwhelming response from the industry and in continuation to it we now introduce the MEAN Stack programme. With the launch of MEAN stack, we aim to create full-stack developers for start-ups and product engineering organisations."*

According to Stack Overflow Developer Survey 2016, Javascript is the most popular programming language on earth. And even Back-end developers today are most likely to use Javascript than any other language. The MEAN Stack program will encompass the various aspects of Web app development and covers the following objectives: Design responsive Web apps using HTML5, CSS3, and various JavaScript frameworks such as Bootstrap & AngularJS, Develop Web apps using JavaScript frameworks such as, ExpressJS, NodeJS, & CommonJS, Create and consume Web services using RestAPI, Implement various testing tools, such as Mocha, Chai, Jasmine, and Protractor while developing Web apps.

MEAN stack is extremely quick prototype to work with. Node allows the programmer to use Javascript on the backend as well as the frontend, thus saving the programmer from learning separate languages. During the projects, the students will get to work on latest technologies like AngularJS, Bootstrap, JQuery, JS, HTML5 & CSS 3, ExpressJS, CommonJS, REST API, Yeoman, Gulp & NodeJS, MongoDB.

According to MIT Centre for Digital Business, 77% of organizations consider missing digital skills as the key hurdle to their transformation strategy. Therefore, Indian & Global IT Companies are investing heavily in building digital transformation skills to enable their clients transform digitally. As organizations are building talent pool, the most-sought after skill sets include: Product Engineering, Business Analytics, Cloud Technology and Architecture, Mobile Apps, Internet of Things and Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence.

To cater to this need, NIIT is introducing career programs in MEAN stack, Java Enterprise Engineering with DevOps, Big Data & Data Sciences, Web Technologies, Databases Systems, Cloud Computing, Mobile, Infrastructure Management Services (IMS), Cyber-Security, Enterprise Application, Telecom & Embedded Systems, Project Management, Internet of Things (IOT), Visual Design, Game Development, Design Thinking, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and Virtual Reality. Graduates and graduating students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will be eligible to apply for these programs.

http://www.ptinews.com/pressrelease/19152_press-subNIIT-Launches-Course-in-Web-App-Development-with-MEAN-Stack-under-Digital-Transformation-Series

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

NIIT partners edX to train 5 lakh on Berkeley, MIT courses

By PTI | May 12, 2016, 05:39 PM IST

NEW DELHI: Training and skills development firm NIIT has partnered with US-based edX to offer online courses from leading international universities including MIT and Berkeley to about 5 lakh people over the next three years.

"Through this partnership, NIIT and edX aim to create high-impact learning experiences for learners by offering a blended learning MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) model," NIIT Chairman Rajendra Pawar told reporters here.

edX is a not-for-profit joint venture between Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and offers online courses from world's leading universities like Berkeley, Caltech, IIT-Bombay and Princeton University.

Anant Agarwal, CEO edX and MIT Professor, said, "India has always been a focus for us, especially with the government's emphasis on Digitalisation and Upskilling. With this strategic tie-up, edX will offer a tremendous opportunity to learners to access high-quality education."

Pawar further said the course will be engaging and offer live interactive experience going much beyond the core MOOC content.

About 10 programmes across areas like programming using Python from MIT, HTML5 from the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), Data Science and Analytics from Columbia University, and Data Science and Engineering with Spark from University of California, Berkeley, will be offered jointly by NIIT and edX.

"In the next 3 years, we are looking at reaching to 5 lakh people," he said.

The 3-4 week courses will be priced between Rs 7,000 and Rs 10,000. These can be availed by students as well as working professionals looking to upskill themselves.

Despite the popularity of MOOCs, studies have found that completion rates of the programmes are low with some reported to be significantly less than 10 per cent.

The low retention and completion rates are major concerns for educators and institutions as an estimated 5 per cent of enrolled students complete a free MOOC.

Even MOOC courses with paid verified certification options see completion rates of only 60 per cent or higher.

"So, there is significant scope for improvement which this initiative is targeting with its unique blended learning model," he said.

For select courses, NIIT and edX will offer a pre-configured course that includes the MOOC, blended services from NIIT and certification exam from the institutional partner.

edX has partnered with Indian universities like IIT Bombay, IIM Bengaluru as well as Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani. It has more than 7.3 lakh Indian learners and has seen 96 per cent growth in its Indian learner base over the last year.



"Through this partnership, NIIT and edX aim to create high-impact learning experiences for learners by offering a blended learning MOOC model," NIIT Chairman said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/niit-partners-edx-to-train-5-lakh-on-berkeley-mit-courses/articleshow/52239833.cms>


 moneycontrol
India's No.1 Financial Portal

NIIT in tie-up with edX, looks to offer blended learning model

May 12, 2016, 03:18 PM | Source: CNBC-TV18

edX currently has 730,000 learners who have subscribed to its online education facility. Patwardhan expects this number to increase to 5 million in 3 years following the tie-up.



The skill and talent development company NIIT has entered into a strategic partnership with edX to provide online education. With edX, NIIT plans to provide a blended learning model, which will offer online courses and will have local instructors, said Rahul Patwardhan, Chief Executive Officer, NIIT.

edX currently has 730,000 learners who have subscribed to its online education facility. Patwardhan expects this number to increase to 5 million in 3 years following the tie-up.

Below is the verbatim transcript of Rahul Patwardhan's interview with Reema Tendulkar & Mangalam Maloo on CNBC-TV18.

Mangalam: Could you tell us what kind of revenue potential does this strategic tie-up with edX have and by when can the company realise this?

A: This is a profound relationship. It basically brings together the best of content from the top 100 universities in the world who are the partners of edX with the nationwide channel and on the ground instructor and learning capability that NIIT provides in India and therefore both for edX and for NIIT; it's first of a kind partnership. Never before has edX tied up with somebody to offer a blended nation scale learning model and therefore this is first of its kind.

However, volume wise currently edX has about 730,000 learners online for free courses and some of them pay for the certification that is available from the universities that they partnered with. The challenge in India and that of emerging markets too, is that learners want to have some form of contact with the faculty. Therefore, this model provides for best content taken from Stanford, Berkeley and wherever it is, but NIIT centres on the ground, across 350 locations in India will also provide blended services in terms of local instructors, in terms of skill building, in terms of practice project and most importantly in terms of placement services on the ground.

Reema: Since you will be utilising various NIIT Limited centres, should we assume that all the courses will be paid for and if you could help us with even the revenue expectations from this particular tie-up?

A: People today can go on to edX on their own and learn courses free. However, when they want certification then they pay for the certification and the fee is shared by edX and concerned university. The challenge is that a very small percentage of people actually pay online when they go on to the edX platform. Majority choose to do the courses free. However, people who are looking for job and looking for a formal career upgrade which means the promotion when they are in working industry, they want something more. Hence that is recognised by the edX which is why they looked at a partner like us who can bring the rest of the things into play.

In terms of revenue, the current learners from 730,000 will go up to about five times of that, three million people three years from now. We expect about 5 percent of that segment will be possible for NIIT to offer the blended model where the course's fee is roughly be about Rs 10,000 per student.

http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/niitie-upedx-looks-to-offer-blended-learning-model_6637561.html

BusinessLine

NIIT introduces avant-garde GNIIT digital transformation

May 2, 2016: Business Wire India

Offers path-breaking digital transformation training to aspiring software engineering professionals

Digital Transformation - the New IT that is set to redefine the technology landscape

NIIT a global leader in skills and talent development announced the launch of GNIIT Digital Transformation (DT) - a path-breaking GNIIT program that equips college students to ride the wave of digital transformation - the process of shifting from a traditional approach to new ways of working and thinking using digital, social, mobile and emerging technologies. The new GNIIT-DT is exclusively available for Cloud and Mobile Software Engineering – Java Specialization and will be offered across all Synchronized Learning Technology enabled centres of NIIT.

NIIT recently ventured into Digital Transformation to offer pioneering programs to young aspirants who wish to enter the digital services industry, as well as to IT professionals wishing to reskill themselves for the new digital world. Under the DigiNxt portfolio, NIIT will gradually shift the whole general IT education and training modules towards futuristic technologies like Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops, Robotics, IoT, Virtual Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning etc. Through this initiative, NIIT aims to re-align the Skills and Career Group to the changing future-skill-sets requirement of the industry to help create job-ready talent pool for the digital era.

India, with a strong technology ecosystem of Multinational R&D centres service providers, IT global in-house centres and start-ups, is well placed to play a key role in the digital era. Indian talent can potentially power the digital transformation for enterprises around the world. According to a survey by Zinnov, a leading Management Consulting firm, India is home to digitally ready talent pool of 500,000 graduates suitable to execute digital transformation projects. This is expected to increase to around a million engineers by 2020. Today entry-level and experienced workforce with Digital Transformation Skills are attracting 50% to 60% more salaries than those with traditional IT skills.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Prakash Menon, President, Global Skills & Careers Business, NIIT Ltd. said, "Over the years NIIT has trained more than 1 million non-engineering students for Software engineering careers. Today Digital Transformation Skills is the need of the hour in Indian IT Industry and keeping pace with the changing industry requirements; we are upgrading the GNIIT program by introducing GNIIT Digital Transformation. The program will help groom the non-engineering students aspiring for software engineering careers to achieve their career aspirations".

GNIIT, which was traditionally taught in a 6-month semester based learning model has been revised into 7 Terms in its latest iteration. Each term is 12-15 weeks long and is aligned to University Semester Curriculum which offers students the flexibility to study along with their college graduation.

After successful completion of GNIIT program, students can opt either for a one year of Professional Practice in the industry which on successful completion gives a GNIIT title, or can go for 3 months accelerated Digital Transformation course, followed by 6 months of Professional Practice which will give them a GNIIT- Digital Transformation title. Students registering for GNIIT can move to GNIIT-DT on demonstrating learning capabilities in the NIIT terms. Such movement will be enabled for students scoring CGPA of 8 and above till Term 4 and scoring more than 60% in their 10+2.

GNIIT offers a perfect blend of skills that include core domain skills, professional & grooming, and new age skills complementing the academic program the student is pursuing. The industry-endorsed curriculum of GNIIT Program enables students to acquire necessary skills to aspire for new age jobs. The curriculum lays emphasis on industry-specific competencies to help students stand out in the most competitive environment. Students also get curriculum mapped to global technology certification that allow them to seize the best global career opportunities.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/business-wire/niit-introduces-avantgarde-gniit-digital-transformation/article8547014.ece>

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Company set on positive growth trajectory: NIIT on Q4

May 10, 2016, 02:49 PM IST



<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/et-now/tech/company-set-on-positive-growth-trajectory-niit-on-q4/videoshow/52203760.cms>

Business Standard

NIIT March-quarter net at Rs 17.8 cr

Press Trust of India New Delhi May 10, 2016 Last Updated at 16:56 IST

Skills and talent development firm NIIT today reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 17.8 crore for the March quarter on account of growth in Skills and Careers (SNC) and Corporate Learning (CL) business.

The company had posted a net loss of Rs 151.2 crore in the January-March quarter last year.

Revenue grew 7% to Rs 238.9 crore during the quarter under review as against Rs 223.5 crore in the year-ago period.

"The business transformation programme has delivered to plan and ensured turnaround of our Skills and Careers Group (SNC) business back to growth and profitability," NIIT CEO Rahul Patwardhan said.

The Corporate Learning business has delivered rock steady consistent growth and profitability, he added.

"The revenue from all NIIT Go-Forward businesses, which excludes geographies and businesses that we had defocused and exited, grew by a robust 11% during the year, thus indicating strong demand and a healthy growth momentum for our focused strategy," Patwardhan said.

For the entire fiscal, the company posted a net profit of Rs 67.2 crore (against a loss of Rs 138.5 crore) while revenue grew 5% to Rs 1,006.9 crore from the previous fiscal.

CL business recorded a revenue of Rs 136 crore, up 18% year-on-year, during the fourth quarter.

It added four new Managed Training Services (MTS) customers in the March quarter, taking the MTS client base to 31 with a revenue visibility of \$200 million for CL business.

MTS portfolio contributed 90% to overall CL revenue in 2015-16.

SNC business recorded a net revenue of Rs 72.8 crore during the quarter.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/niit-march-qtr-net-at-rs-17-8-cr-116051000822_1.html

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

NIIT to train 20,000 students on IoT, robotics, VR

By PTI | May 12, 2016, 05:39 PM IST

NEW DELHI: Skills and talent development firm NIIT aims to train about 20,000 students this year on future technologies like Internet of Things (IoT), robotics and virtual reality (VR) to meet the changing skill set requirement of various industries.

The company will launch the new courses from next month to be offered from its centres and later extend them to engineering colleges later.



"We have been a global leader in skills and talent development. Once again, we want to revolutionise the landscape by introducing these pioneering programmes. Looking at the digital transformation across industry verticals, we want to create a talent pool that is equipped with skill sets required," NIIT President (Global Skills and Careers Group) Prakash Menon told PTI.

These programmes will cover Java Stack, Mean Stack, Big Data and Data Sciences Stack, Cloud Stack, IoT Stack, robotics and VR, he added.

"India, with a strong technology ecosystem of MNC R&D centres, service providers, IT global in-house centres and startups, is well placed to play key role in the digital era ...Our aim is to train about 20,000 people in the first year," he said.

NIIT will roll out 12-14 week courses from 150 centres and later expand them to other centres and engineering colleges as well. The fees starts at about Rs 25,000.

"The focus of the courses is building products rather than software. The students will be required to work on two projects for the course," Menon said.

According to industry reports, India is home to digitally ready talent pool of five lakh engineers suitable to execute digital transformation projects.

This is expected to increase to over a million engineers trained in digital transformation technologies by 2020.

"Owing to this growing demand, entry-level and experienced workforce with Digital Transformation Skills are attracting higher salaries as well compared to those with traditional IT skills," he said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/telecom/niit-to-train-20000-students-on-iot-robotics-vr/articleshow/51872082.cms>

DATAQUEST

NIIT introduces 'Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops'

By PTI | May 12, 2016, 05:39 PM IST

As part of its strategic focus to offer futuristic courses in IT under the Digital Transformation series, NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development, introduced 'Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops' program. This avant garde program, based on student centred pedagogy of project-based learning, is the first program to be offered by NIIT under the DigiNxt portfolio. The company has recently ventured into Digital Transformation to offer pioneering programs to young aspirants wishing to enter the digital services industry, as well as to IT professionals wishing to reskill themselves for the new digital world. Starting with Java Enterprise Apps with DevOps, the company will gradually shift the whole general IT education and training modules towards futuristic technologies like Robotics, IoT, Virtual Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning etc.

Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops will encompass the various aspects of enterprise app development while enabling a learner to implement these aspects through project-based learning methodology. The students are expected to spend at least 70% of their time on project work during the program. The upcoming batch would be working on two projects- Development of E-Commerce Portal and Collaboration Platform. On successful completion of the three-month program students will be offered 100% placement assistance for Java Enterprise Developer roles by NIIT. Admission to the program are currently open for the first batch starting on May 30, 2016.

Speaking on the launch of the program Mr. Prakash Menon, President, Global Skills & Careers Group, NIIT Ltd said, "The emergence of the digital era has presented us with great opportunities as well as unique challenges. While on one hand India has a strong technology ecosystem and can potentially power the digital transformation for enterprises around the world, on the other hand Indian industry is faced with acute shortage of workforce trained in digital transformation technologies. To cater to this growing demand NIIT is committed to offer a series of industry-aligned training program in digital transformation, Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops being the first in the series."

The module of Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops program would comprise Core Java, Advanced Java, Oracle Database, HTML5 & CSS3, Web Services, Spring, Hibernate and Dev Ops. The program will cover understanding and implementing object-oriented concepts using Java technology programs; writing SQL queries to retrieve, manage, and manipulate data; designing responsive Web/enterprise apps using HTML5, CSS3, and various JavaScript frameworks such as Bootstrap & AngularJS; build persistent and loosely coupled Web apps using Hibernate and Spring technologies; building RESTFull Web Services; building high quality Web/enterprise apps by using DevOps platform.

During the projects, the students will get to work on latest technologies like Bootstrap, Java script, J Query, Angular JS, Hibernate, Spring and continuous Integration of code developed using Maven scripts to build responsive websites with light weight components & high security. GitHub's forking tools and code management features are absolutely ingrained in the student's daily workflow. The program follows the agile-methodologies for the projects – which is the de-facto standard in today's software development organizations. Project-based learning will ensure that the student is ready to be productive in his organization – right from day one, hour one.

According to MIT Centre for Digital Business, 77% of organizations consider missing digital skills as the key hurdle to their transformation strategy. Therefore, Indian & Global IT Companies are investing heavily in building digital transformation skills to enable their clients transform digitally. As organizations are building talent pool, the most-sought after skill sets include: Product Engineering, Business Analytics, Cloud Technology and Architecture, Mobile Apps, Internet of Things and Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence.

To cater to this need, NIIT is introducing career programs in Java Enterprise Engineering with DevOps, Big Data & Data Sciences, Web Technologies, Databases Systems, Cloud Computing, Mobile, Infrastructure Management Services (IMS), Cyber-Security, Enterprise Application, Telecom & Embedded Systems, Project Management, Internet of Things (IOT), Visual Design, Game Development, Design Thinking, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and Virtual Reality. Graduates and graduating students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics will be eligible to apply for these programs.

<http://www.dqindia.com/niit-introduces-java-enterprise-apps-with-dev-ops/>

The Telegraph

NIIT shifts focus

A Staff Reporter

Calcutta, April 19: NIIT is focusing on technology-based training programmes rather than physical expansion to grow substantially in the current fiscal.

"A digital transformation is happening in the IT industry across the world where companies need people skilled with the latest technology. The current skills will become obsolete soon. Hence, we are eyeing an opportunity in this as the industry is in a desperate need of big data analytics, Internet of Things, robotics, virtual reality and artificial intelligence," Rahul Keshav Patwardhan, CEO of NIIT, told The Telegraph.

During 2014-15, the IT training company's revenue stood at Rs 348.54 crore. It is expecting a double-digit growth for the year ended March 2016.

NIIT will be offering 17 programmes by the end of this fiscal under their DigiNxt brand to create a job-ready talent pool for the IT industry.

Of these, three will be launched by May in 150 centres. The company has 350 centres nationally with a faculty base of over 3,000.

"IT giants such as TCS, Wipro and Infosys will need talent with updated skills and no university is focusing on these programmes. In fact, none in the private sector is teaching this. So, we will focus solely on these programmes to grow rather than on adding more centres," he said.

The IT industry, which is estimated to be over \$130 billion in 2014-15, employs over 3.5 million people.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160420/jsp/business/story_81081.jsp#.V3oLwwl97IX

webindia 123

Oshkosh Corporation awards managed training service contract to NIIT

New Delhi | Thursday, Apr 28 2016 IST

Management training company NIIT today said it has been awarded a contract to provide managed training services to Oshkosh Corporation. With this contract, NIIT's corporate learning group will provide a host of learning services to Oshkosh corporation, the company said in a statement. "We are honoured that Oshkosh corporation has selected us as its provider of custom content and curriculum design services. Our goal is to focus on providing learning content of the highest quality aligned with increased business impact and value," said Sapnesh Lalla, President, Corporate Learning Group, NIIT limited. Oshkosh Corporation is a leader designer, manufacturer and marketer of a broad range of access equipment, commercial, fire and emergency, military and specialty vehicle and vehicle bodies. The company already covers three main lines of business across the globe - Corporate Learning Group, Careers Group and School Learning Group, it added further.

<http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20160428/2847164.html>

The Times of India | CITY

IIM-A ties up with tech trainers for e-learning courses

TNN | Jun 2, 2016, 06.44 AM IST

Ahmedabad: The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) on Wednesday has announced it will launch several E-learning programmes in the next few months. The city-based premium institute has tied up with NIIT and Hughes to deliver education in the form of synchronous studio-to-classroom programmes.

This initiative comes after recognizing that management education is going through dramatic changes, especially with regard to infusion of technology challenging the traditional content delivery model, said officials of the institute.

IIM-A signed an agreement with Hughes Communication India limited, which is a networking services company on Wednesday. The an agreement with NIIT Limited, a leading management training company, was reached in May.

"Information technology is creating significant disruptions and opportunities in the higher-education sector. Increasingly, delivery of high-quality management education is becoming feasible through technology. IIM-A is committed to innovating and leveraging technology to provide the best quality educational experience to leaders that make a difference," said Professor Ashish Nanda, director of IIM-A.

Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd said, "We started working with IIM-A in 2006, to offer quality executive management programmes to young professionals across the country by leveraging NIIT's pioneering Synchronous Learning Technology."

"As a leading player in educational technology in India, NIIT has been at the forefront of technological and pedagogical innovations in learning, keenly aware of challenges the higher education sector faces," Patwardhan said. "Taking our association with IIM-A forward, we will continue to work towards developing innovative learning models to deliver their management programmes at scale, by providing best-in-class technology-based solutions," Patwardhan added. "Hughes has been the pioneer and at the forefront of Interactive Onsite Learning (IOL) technology in India, since 2002, with more than 25,000 alumni. Hughes is proud to be associated with IIM-A, in their quest to spread premium class-apart learning to remote locations in India. Hughes looks up to this tie-up to take top curricula, programmes and of IIM-A to prospective students across India," said Partho Banerjee, president and managing director of Hughes.

"NIIT and Hughes are well-known names in distance education. IIM-A selected the institutes after a thorough selection process," said a statement from the IIM-A.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/IIM-A-ties-up-with-tech-trainers-for-e-learning-courses/articleshow/52546649.cms>

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

IIM Ahmedabad to launch e-learning programmes

By Sreeradha Basu, ET Bureau | Jun 01, 2016, 07.09 PM IST

MUMBAI: IIM Ahmedabad today announced that it is set to launch several e-learning programs over the next few months, keeping in mind that management education is going through dramatic changes, especially with regard to infusion of technology challenging the traditional content delivery model.

IIMA has tied up with NIIT and Hughes to deliver education in the form of synchronous studio-to-classroom programs.

The institute will be launching both distance learning and blended learning programs through this initiative. Several Executive Education courses will also be a part of this e-learning model.

"Information Technology is creating significant disruptions and opportunities in the higher-education sector. Increasingly, delivery of high-quality management education is becoming feasible through technology. IIMA is committed to innovating in this space and leveraging technology to provide the best quality educational experience to leaders that make a difference," said professor Ashish Nanda, Director, IIM Ahmedabad in a statement.

IIMA signed an agreement with Hughes today; and an agreement with NIIT was reached earlier in May.

Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT said, "We started working with IIMA in 2006, to offer quality executive management programs from the premier institute to young professionals across the country by leveraging NIIT's Synchronous Learning Technology. We will continue to work towards developing innovative learning models to deliver their management programs at scale, by providing best-in-class technology-based solutions."



The institute will be launching both distance learning and blended learning programs through this initiative. Several Executive Education courses will also be a part of this e-learning model. Representative Image.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/iim-ahmedabad-to-launch-e-learning-programmes/articleshow/52539157.cms>

NIIT #EdTech The future is here

<https://twitter.com/NIITLtd>

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jul 6
 Rise in online learning gives the employees the flexibility to learn whenever and wherever.
 #CorporateTraining



39% of all corporate training is delivered online, via mobile phone or remotely.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jul 4
 Banking takes digital to the next level in 2016.
 #TechinBanking @CIOIn @Computerworld



With increased competition and customer expectations, Indian banking industry takes to digital to stay ahead.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jul 4
 Use of #BYOD policy in classrooms has increased in the last yr & will increase further in the upcoming yrs
 #EdTech



BYOD in classrooms has already exploded from 22 percent to 56 percent in one year alone.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jun 24
 Prakash Menon, President, Global Skills & Careers Group, NIIT Ltd talks about the launch of the course



To cater to this need we recently launched, Java Enterprise Apps with Dev Ops, which has received an overwhelming response from the industry and in continuation to it we now introduce the MEAN Stack programme. With the launch of MEAN stack we aim to create full-stack developers for start-ups and product engineering organisations.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jun 21
 Around 400 people gather at NIIT Training Institute, Guiyang, China to celebrate #IDY2016 #YogaDay



NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jun 20
 Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd talks about why the live online interactive course was launched



Looking at providing convenience to customers, who don't want to waste time traveling to the centres, we have launched the first of the series of live online interactive course.

NIIT #EdTech The future is here

<https://twitter.com/NIITLtd>

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Jun 1
 Udai Singh on the importance of NIIT.tv being awarded the "Best Online Education Platform"
 #EdTech



This award reiterates our belief that NIIT.tv is a technological and pedagogical force multiplier that will help us create skilled workforce across multiple sectors, to cater to the workforce requirements of the industry.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · May 26
 Rahul Patwardhan with Premier Li Keqiang at #BigData Industry Summit 2016 at Guiyang, China



NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · May 12
 Vijay K. Thadani, Vice Chairman & MD, NIIT Limited speaks on the strategic tie-up between NIIT & @edXOnline



1st ever partnership for nation scale blended learning: 2 global giants edX & NIIT come together.

NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · May 12
 NIIT & @edXOnline partner to redefine online education to boost future-ready talent.



NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · May 10
 Earlier during the year, NIIT launched @Stack_Route-an initiative to create Full-stack programmers for the industry



NIIT NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · Apr 18
 NIIT launches #DigiNxt to redefine #IT Training in India.



Read more: thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/niit...
 #IoT #Robotics #VirtualReality @businessline

NIIT retail training brand boon to IT service firms
 Diginxt being launched in Chennai today
thehindubusinessline.com