



Data Quest NATIONAL DECEMBER 31, 2008

20 The DQ 50

NIIT Limited

Training Recession proof

RANK
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The ripple effect of the global meltdown is gradually permeating down to the training market globally, but NIIT Limited managed a 25% rise in career enrollments in India; added twelve new centers; and expanded seating capacity by 15% y-o-y in the domestic market, all in the first quarter itself.

In the second quarter, the individual learning solutions business saw a 22% increase in overall enrollments. For addressing increasing demand for skilled workers in the business and technology services industry, a new program called NIIT Uniqua was launched offering training programs in areas like business processes, language skills and business communication.

For the first time, NIIT also forayed into the BI space through partnership with SAS Institute. Through alliance with Pearson VUE, NIIT will expand their certification network in India. In the enterprise learning solutions business, the company bagged training orders worth \$39.2 mn in the first quarter and \$39.4 mn in the second quarter. The highlight of the school learning solutions business was bagging a Rs 1,728 mn order from the Andhra Pradesh government to provide computer aided education to 2,005 schools, making it the biggest contract in India in the segment.

Launched a year back, the financial management training business has also done remarkably well.



FACTSHEET

- **CEO:** Vijay K Thadani
- **Start-up Year:** 1981
- **Products & Services:** knowledge solutions and IT training

REVENUE (Rs crore)

- **H1 FY 2008-09:** 675
- **H1 FY 2007-08:** 495
- **FY 2007-08:** 1,007

Source: DQ estimates

Financial Chronicle

HYDERABAD

DECEMBER 18, 2008

NIIT joins hands with US firm Fourier

S SHYAMALA

Chennai

IT TRAINING company NIIT has partnered US-based Fourier Systems to launch interactive science learning solution for schools called Smart Science Station. The solution launched on Wednesday will be a part of NIIT's comprehensive solution eGuru.

The science stations enables 160 experiments covering topics including heat, electricity, sound and magnetic field. Fourier provides the technology, content and the experiment gadgets called Nova 5000, which are portable computing tools. NIIT will market and sell the solution in India. Fourier creates solutions for technology-enabled learning and is present

India. Fourier creates solutions for technology-enabled learning and is present across 40 countries.

L Balasubramanian, president-school learning solutions of NIIT, said "Science Station will help students to enhance their learning capabilities by combining classroom learning with day-to-day life. Initially, we plan to market the solution along with our comprehensive eGuru solution."

EGuru comprises interactive classrooms for teachers, Math Lab and IT Wizard for students and Quick School, and education resource planning solution for school management.

The science station solution will help implement National Curriculum Framework 2005 guidelines by NCERT (National Council of Education Research and Training) and will cover subjects such as physics, chemistry, biology and environmental sciences for standards VI to X.

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The Hindu Business Line

HYDERABAD

DECEMBER 18, 2008



Learning tool: Mr Dov Bruker (left), CEO, Fourier Systems and Mr L. Balasubramanian, President- School Learning Solutions, NIIT, at the launch of NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station', in Chennai on Wednesday.-
Bijoy Ghosh

NIIT's 'smart science station'

Chennai, Dec. 17

NIIT Ltd, in partnership with Fourier Systems, today announced the launch of 'NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station', which enables a range of technology-aided science experiments covering topics such as heat, electricity, sound and measurement of pollution of air and water. It lets students learn better by helping them co-relate classroom learning with day-to-day life. For instance, in field trips, students can carry the portable Smart Science Station to extract real time data such as air and water pollution, according to a press release from NIIT. More than 160 activities can be carried out on the Smart Science Station for which simulation is available with readings being collected through data loggers, says the release. — **Our Bureau**

The Indian Express

HYDERABAD

DECEMBER 29, 2008

News and Issues

Monday, December 29, 2008 | The New Indian Express

education express 3

NIIT LAUNCHES

'Smart Science Station'

NIIIT in partnership with Fourer Systems, a worldwide leader in science education, has launched NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station - an innovative learning solution, which integrates Science Lab with classrooms.

NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station enables a range of technology-aided Science experiments covering topics on heat, electricity, sound, measurement of air and water pollution etc. It is a break-through innovation that allows students to enhance their learning capabilities by helping them co-relate classroom learning with day-to-day life. During

field trips it make easy for the students to carry the portable Smart Science Station to extract real time data such as air and water pollution levels for conducting any related experiments.

As part of the alliance, NIIT will make available technology-enabled learning solution to explore science through computer-aided experimentation, while Fourer Systems will offer NOVA 5000 science data logger with a vast range of science probes for capturing relevant data.

L. Balasubramanian, President, School Learning Solutions, NIIT said, "NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station is aimed at discovering

the scientist within the students. We believe that the initiative will help address the need of combining classroom learning with real life as mandated by NCFERT."

This novel concept is part of NIIT eGuru's offering of Interactive Classroom (ICR) for schools. The solution will help implement National Curriculum Framework guidelines by NCFERT, in schools and will cover subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Environmental Sciences for classes 6 to 10.

Speaking at the launch of NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station, Dov Bruker, CEO Fourer Systems said, "We are pleased to partner with NIIT to bring our pioneering technologies in learning of Science for the first time to the schools in India. We are confident that together with NIIT, we shall be contributing to the cause of inculcating and reinforcing the strong scientific thought process in students."

More than 100 activities can be carried out on the NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station, for which simulation is available, with readings being collected through the data loggers. The solution assists collaborative learning where machines can be connected on WiFi LAN and students can learn from each other. This comes equipped with all standard applications such as internet, word processing, spreadsheets and e-mail to help students tabulate, record and share their observations during any experiments.

It also makes available the multimedia analysis software that includes graphical manipulations, multiple analysis functions and Lab report direct printing capabilities.

The NIIT eGuru Smart Science Station is a step forward, with the integration of science labs to classrooms thereby providing an in-

novative learning solution in schools through ICT intervention.

There are also Interactive Classrooms for teachers, 'Math lab' and 'IT Wizard' for students and 'Quick School' in Education Resource Planning solution for school management. NIIT eGuru provides a holistic education package to schools for addressing the need of all key stakeholders within the education realm. NIIT has been spearheading introduction of new technologies for making Science an interesting subject.

Earlier this year, at the annual convention held by UNESCO, NIIT was honoured with 'Certificate of Commendation' for its state-of-the-art Computer Aided eXperience Kit.



The Week

NATIONAL

DECEMBER 28, 2008

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**THE INDIAN
GENIUS**

THE WEEK · ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL · DECEMBER 28, 2008



SANJAY AHLAWAT

EDUCATION

Hole in the wall exposes slum children to computers

BY SONI MISHRA

A good number of children in Madangir, a low-income locality of Delhi, are computer geeks who spend hours in front of a PC. A 'hole in the wall' transports them instantaneously from their poverty-stricken lives into a world of knowledge and fun.

The hole in the wall—which is actually a kiosk with computers set in depressions in a wall—has the same bewitching effect on children in the area as perhaps the fabled Pied Piper did on the children of Hamelin.

The children have open access to the computers and are encouraged to find out for themselves how to

use them. With minimal intervention they draw, paint, play games, go through educational material and improve their language skills. Set up eight years ago, the hole in the wall in Madangir is painted bright yellow and has five computers. Open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., it is abuzz with youngsters all day. Prominent among them is nine-year-old Shabnam, a computer-crazy brat. The other children don't mess with her, allowing her maximum use of the kiosk. Not at all shy, the little girl with a lisp describes her favourite game on the computer, '*Bhookha magarmach*' (Hungry Crocodile). "The crocodile eats you up if you

MY MACHINE: Little geeks

give a wrong answer. I have never been eaten," she says proudly.

Ruby, a student of class 10, who comes to the kiosk less frequently than before because she has to devote more time to studying for the Board exams, talks about how the children have come up with their own terminology for various computer icons. "We call the cursor '*teer*' [arrow] and the hourglass '*doodh ka katora*' [cup of milk]. The kids often say '*yeh doodh ka katora kab bharega*' [when will the cup of milk fill up?] when the hourglass icon is on and they are waiting," she says. "In the beginning, I would play games and watch cartoons on the computer. Then slowly, I started going through information on different subjects like English, maths, science and social studies."

The hole in the wall has a tie-up with the government's campaign for universalising education, and targets children who are out of school. According to Manoj, a supervisor at

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SANJAY AHLAWAT

a learning centre in the Hauz Rani area of Delhi, a sizeable number of children who are using the kiosk are school dropouts. “Only last week, I got 10 children re-admitted to school,” he says. “The content is such that it encourages children to go back to school, coupled with the pep talk that we give them.”

The kiosks are set up near schools so that they catch the eye of school-

children and encourage the dropouts to get back to school. One of the computer games is based on the ‘School chale hum’ song of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, an education programme of the Union government.

The success of the project lies in the unrestricted use of computers and the innovative content, which is interactive and multimedia-based. As there is little intervention by the supervisor, the concept is child-centric and not teacher-centric, providing for self-paced learning in a playful atmosphere. Computer skills are passed on by older children to the younger ones.

True to its motto “Some walls are meant to break barriers,” the hole in the wall—a brainchild of Dr Sugata Mitra, educationist and chief scientist, NIIT—is breaking the digital divide for underprivileged children not only in Delhi but in different parts of the country, as well as the rest of Asia and Africa.

The project began as a research experiment in 1999 when Mitra installed a computer on the wall

TECH TOYS: Children draw, paint, play games and go through educational material

separating the NIIT office from a slum situated next door, in Kalkaji in south Delhi. It was a big success and children who had no exposure to computers took to the PC instantly and learnt to use it on their own.

“We decided to do a meaningful act coinciding with Republic Day in 1999. We had a city slum outside one of our software factories in south Delhi. We thought, why not do something for the slum children that can be their window of knowledge to the world,” recalls NIIT Chairman R.S. Pawar.

“For the nine countries where we have initiated the hole in the wall, one aspect is common—the pace of learning computer basics is extremely rapid. The children get hooked from day one and remain hooked for a long time,” says Pawar. “What started with an experiment has now become India’s gift to the world.” ■

SMALL REVOLUTIONARIES

Eleven-year-old Ubed heads a panchayat in Uttar Pradesh. His playmates are the other members of the council. Many such councils or Bal Panchayats have been formed across India by Bachpan Bachao Andolan, a movement for children’s rights.

Bal Panchayats strengthen BBA’s campaigns by spreading awareness on the importance of education. Formed in 1980 and led by Kailesh Satyarthi, BBA works to root out child labour and child marriage, and ensure that the little ones get education. So far, 238 villages have been made child-friendly.

Indian Express

NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 28, 2008

A window to the world through hole in

ANEESHA MATHUR
NEW DELHI | DECEMBER 27

Kaish (13) spends his day working at a tea stall near a Delhi government school in an East Delhi slum. The walls of the school enclose a world unknown to him. But thanks to a scheme by the Directorate of Education (DoE) and NIIT, Kailash has a window, literally, to a world of learning earlier denied to him.

Aptly named 'Khuja Sim Sim', the scheme enables underprivileged children to learn through computers. Windows with computers, which open outwards, have been installed in the compound wall of the school. These computers are used by children like Kailash.

"I play games on the computer," he says. He doesn't know the names of the

looking at 2008

games or the numbers on the screen but his learning doesn't depend on his reading skills. "They learn quickly what icons to click and play games through hit-and-trial," Rajesh Patel, caretaker of one such centre at the Kailash Nagar school, says.

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-based learning centre is an offshoot of NIIT's 'Hole in the Wall' programme, started by Sugata Mitra in 1999.

At present, only two such centres are operational in Delhi but 75 are under

developed by IL&FS Education and Technology Services Limited. "The companies are responsible for providing staff for the centres and maintaining them for three years," Singh says.

The computers are fixed at a convenient height with a crystal polymer sheet covering the big monitors, and have a set of touch keys instead of the mouse. The children play simple games based on mathematics and scientific concepts. A section also includes the 'Caltoonz' programme, a DoE initiative to tell stories in cartoon format.

The drawback is that the games, except for Caltoonz, are in English, a language the children don't understand. "I don't know what it says but I know which button to press for music," Kailash says.

This, officials say, will not hinder the scheme. "The fact that the child comes to

the kiosk regularly is a big achievement in itself," Abhishek Gupta of Hiwel says.

Charu Malhotra of IL&FS says the kiosks should be seen as an aid to informal, unscripted learning. "These programmes teach children basic concepts, life skills, hygiene, and even basic mathematics," she says. "It is not feasible to have the kind of teaching modules used inside schools here." Education Secretary Reena Ray says, "This is a pilot project, we may add more kiosks if it works out."

The kiosks are set up after awareness has been generated about them in the area. The facilitator at the kiosk is a local trained to operate and maintain the kiosk. "People send their children, particularly girls, to the kiosk easily if they know the person present there," Suhotra Banerjee, Hiwel relationship manager, says.



construction. "The DoE has given the contract for building these centres and they are expected to be ready by the end of January," V P Singh, state project director of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, says.

The contract for 55 centres has been given to NIIT's Hole in the Wall Education Limited (Hiwel), and the rest will be

Hindustan Times
PATNA
DECEMBER 19, 2008

PATNA

I want to take chess beyond cities: Anand

Rakesh Verma
 Patna, December 18

CHESS GRANDMASTER Vishwanathan Anand is a most unlikely Page 3 personality. Self-effacing to the point of reticence, he came across as that young-man-next-door, one who most would forget the moment one's back is turned. He smiled a lot, just in the manner of a young embarrassed kid. And not once did he forget to say thank you, to either the master of ceremonies as also the Bihar ministers and the NIIT biggies who shared the dais at the Planetarium's auditorium on Thursday at the launch of the Mind Champion Academy, a joint initiative between the NIIT and himself.

"It is a pity that not many beyond those in the cities, know of the game that traces its origins to India. With the

BIHAR CONNECTION

REMINING OF his association with Bihar, he said though this was his first visit, he had an old connection with the State as his father had spent time here as a student at the Railway institute at Jamalpur in Munger. "My father studied at Jamalpur in Munger district and it is a great pleasure to be here in Patna," the Grandmaster said.

Mind Champion Academy. I hope to breach that divide," he said while kick-starting the venture in some 400 Bihar high schools.

Chess, he observed, had come a long way from the time he first took to playing the

game. "Earlier, chess hardly merited a mention in the newspapers. Today, however, newspapers devote full pages to the game. And rightly so, for chess is one game that is ideally suited to Indian conditions—requiring little infrastructure and costing very little," he said.

Asked whether cricket has overshadowed other sporting disciplines in the country, he said the government had been fair to all sports.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi, who was present, said India had won seven world titles in the year 2008 and the credit should go to the chess maestro, who had popularised and revolutionised the game in the country. Modi also announced that there would be a hall in the upcoming indoor stadium at Kankerbagh in Patna only for chess activities.

Learning the right moves !



ASHISH
 Chess Grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand (centre) and Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi (R) at an NIIT function in the Capital on Thursday.

Anand makes a 'move' in Bihar

Rakesh Verma
Patna, December 18

THREE TIMES World Chess Champion Vishwanathan Anand fast-tracked 400 Bihar high schools on their way to computer literacy on Thursday.

Inaugurating the Mind Champion Academy, powered by the NIIT, of which he is the brand ambassador, Anand observed, "Bihar is changing. This is a small step to give fillip to that change". He said while the process would create computer literate students, the software would also help produce World Chess champions of the future.

Anand said chess clubs, coupled with computers that these 400 high schools would now have, would serve as "gymnasiums for the exercise of young minds". They would produce students who are better equipped to face the challenges of life. "Chess is a game that helps those who play to focus their energies. Apart from disciplining the mind, it also helps foster creative thinking," he said.

"I had always dreamt of taking the game of chess to all the Indian states, particularly to students in rural areas. So far, chess has largely remained an urban phenomenon. But with the Mind Champion Academy I hope to crack the urban-rural divide," he said.

The concept behind the Mind Champion Academy is simple enough: Without neglecting traditionally taught subjects in schools, students would be encouraged to take to chess and computers. "While chess disciplines the mind, teaches logic and reasoning, computers make use of technology to open a virtual world of discoveries that students can make use of to better their academic performances and become surer in their approach to life's complexities," he pointed out.

The headmistresses of two such schools—one in the capital's Mainpura locality and another in Khagaul, were personally handed over software and other Mind Academy kits for the chess clubs in their respective schools by the Grandmaster.



AP DUBE/HT
Three-time chess world champion Vishwanathan Anand being received in Patna on Thursday.

The Asian Age
 NEW DELHI
 DECEMBER 20, 2008

‘Experimentation key to finding form’

BY OUR CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI

Dec. 19: World chess champion Viswanathan Anand feels out-of-form batsman Rahul Dravid should experiment with his technique to regain his touch.

Speaking at a press conference organised by his sponsors NIIT, Anand said he could empathise with the former India captain as he had undergone a similar lean patch in his early years.

The chess ace said he felt woefully out-of-touch during the 2000 Dortmund tournament. What was most puzzling for Anand, at the time, was why his game had gone awry after a successful run that year. "Once I started doing badly I thought of drawing my remaining games," Anand said, hinting that the defensive strategy



World chess champion Vishwanathan Anand demonstrates his skills during an event in New Delhi on Friday. — AP

did not work. "What I did after Dortmund was to keep experimenting for 7-8

months. In that period I could not really recover as I was experimenting only

randomly. It was just very difficult. (But) perhaps that will help him (Dravid)

recover faster," he said.

Anand, who recently thwarted Russian Vladimir Kramnik's challenge to retain his World Championship title in Bonn, Germany, was visiting the capital for the first time after his extraordinary feat of winning the honour in all three formats of game — knockout, round-robin and match-play.

Anand, asked to say a few words about former cricket captain Sourav Ganguly, who is playing the last first-class game, said: "It must be funny to know this is your last match. Kasparov had said the same thing. The rest of the world will be looking back but you have to sit and play or stand and play in his case," he said. "It's an end to a wonderful career, which he can justifiably be proud of," Anand added.

Hindustan Times
 NEW DELHI
 DECEMBER 20, 2008

Anand's mantra: Follow the sport, not the player

Anupma Tripathi
 New Delhi, December 19

"WHY DOES one need a role model? A sportsperson may do exceptionally well in his field but he could be a lousy role model. Follow the sport but don't follow in the footsteps of players, it's not advisable," Viswanathan Anand said sarcastically to the select audience. The world champion was in the Capital on Friday to address management professionals and students as part of the NIIT Imperia leadership series.

Anand touched upon several issues, ranging from global recession to management skills. Asked about his opinion on something as sensitive as terrorism, the normally expressionless face cringed. Explaining his viewpoint using chess terminology, he said, "Terrorism is a sim-



Viswanathan Anand at the NIIT Studio in the Capital on Friday. SUSHIL KUMAR/HT

ple strategy to affect the victim, who is us in this case. Like if I make some bad moves, I do it deliberately to provoke the opponent into making a blunder. Likewise, we must not get provoked by these terror elements and play our own game. Also, dis-

ease and hunger are killing more people than terrorism in the world. These problems are also as important."

He also backed the government's decision to cancel the cricket team's tour of Pakistan. "We cannot have sport at this

time, it will be insensitive to the victims of the Mumbai attacks. Pakistan's complicity is a key factor and we cannot have links with Islamabad at this point," he said. Explaining his stand, Anand said the sole motive of terrorists was to create panic.

"This happens in chess as well. When we have a time constraint, we often press the panic button. "But I generally play calm to think and proceed with a positive frame of mind. The society needs to have a calm look as well to counter terrorism in its own way."

Reacting to the global meltdown, Anand, who is currently reading Mayawati's biography to take his mind off chess, said: "The need is to recognize your weaker areas and look out for new areas where you can work on and then wait for opportunity to strike."

The Indian Express

NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 20, 2008

Anand shows his moves

World champion doubles up as motivational speaker and agony uncle



Vishwanathan Anand demonstrates a chess game through an interactive video conference in New Delhi on Friday. AP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

DECEMBER 19

VISHWANATHAN Anand is used to playing chess with several rivals simultaneously. But facing 200 ardent Anand-watchers during a nation-wide webcast interaction wasn't quite a cakewalk. And since the varied questions thrown at the chess whiz were at times miles away from the game of 64 squares, Anand was understandably stumped by some unusual queries.

Business professionals asked for a solution to the complex question relating to the tensions created at home because of problems at office. Parents wanted to know how to cut the pocket money their kids were getting. Someone wanted to know the formula of being aggressive without being confident. It took all kinds to complete the Q&A session organised as part of

Anand's sponsors NIIT.

Anand did his best as he doubled as a motivational speaker and agony uncle. But there was one question that saw the quick-witted champ throw his hands up. How do I deal with a non-supportive life partner? He was ready for all kinds of role-playing but wasn't in a mood to be a marriage counselor.

Anand's advice about the mundane query on pocket money was simple but it was coming from someone who is into long-term planning. "A parent should give pocket money for five months at one go. And after that, kids should be taught to manage his finances," he said.

Anand gave a few words of wisdom when he asked about the way in which one can deal with negative thoughts. "Try to be calm by lowering your expectations. Don't try to win every time, sometimes a draw is a good morale booster." He also advised youngsters to

be careful in choosing their role models. "I know a few players who are brilliant on the field but are lousy role models. So just be careful," he said.

There was the obvious question about cricket killing other sports, but Anand didn't quite indulge in willow-bashing. "Cricket is not destroying other sports, it is just promoting itself. I have seen when I do well and win something, I get better coverage. So basically to get promoted you need to perform," he said.

Anand also emphasised the importance of education to the young webcast watchers. "Education is important because it opens up a lot more opportunities. But for sportspersons or cricketers, they have to decide at a very young age whether to go for career or education. Once they are involved with the game, there are so busy that taking up education becomes a bit difficult then," he said.

The Hindu

CHENNAI

DECEMBER 20, 2008

Viswanathan Anand airs his views on various topics

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Since landing in Chennai last month, Viswanathan Anand, currently on his routine winter vacation in India, and wife Aruna quietly escaped to a forest resort in Madhya Pradesh. Back in the Capital on a day's visit, the NIIT's Brand Ambassador, interacted with students from 19 cities using NIIT's interactive software.

He was made to air his views on Friday on various subjects.

Anand, who revealed having just finished reading Mayawati's biography *Behenji* and Andrew Hodges' *One to Nine – The inner life of numbers*, however, opted to reserve his views on the proposed changes in the World chess championship format. "Once the present state of flux is over, I will surely tell you," promised Anand.

On tackling terrorism: If I knew I would have slain many gunmen long ago. But seriously, you need to give police better equipment, as terrorism is a global phenomenon these days. It's most important that people in the country be calm. In fact, all diseases and hunger are killing more people than all the terrorism in the world. These problems are also as important.

On India calling off cricket tour to Pakistan: It's easy to



EXPERT OPINION: *Vishwanathan Anand during his interaction with students.* – PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

understand the decision. It would be highly insensitive to the victims (if the team goes to play in Pakistan), we can't have any links with Islamabad in the present circumstances.

On Rahul Dravid's search for form: (Anand recalled his slump in form in 2001 at the Dortmund tournament and said fully he knew how it felt to lose form) What I did after Dortmund was that I kept on experimenting for seven to eight months. In that period also I could not really recover as I was experimenting only randomly. Rahul, too, can try to experiment. Perhaps, that will see him recover faster.

On Sourav Ganguly's last

first-class game: It's an end to a wonderful career, which he could justifiably be proud of.

It must be funny to know this is your last match. (Former World champion) Garry Kasparov had said the same thing. The rest of the world would be looking back but you have to sit and play or stand and play in his (Ganguly's) case, he said.

On his brief meeting with Mahendra Singh Dhoni: I was meeting him for the first time. He came across as a very warm person. But I think he was very playful. Before he presented the ring to me he said, "I hope *Bhabhi* (Aruna) will allow me to present you this ring."

The Times of India

KOLKATA

DECEMBER 20, 2008

Experimentation may help Dravid: Anand

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: World chess champion Viswanathan Anand on



Viswanathan Anand during a promotional event in New Delhi on Friday

Friday felt that Rahul Dravid should experiment with his technique to rediscover his lost form. Speaking at NIIT Imperia, Delhi, Anand said that he had also gone through a difficult period after winning the World championship in 2000.

“In Dortmund 2000, I had a poor start and drew most of my games. Once I started doing badly I thought of drawing my remaining games,” Anand said. “But what happened was that I ended up losing three of the remaining games. What I did after Dortmund was that I kept on experimenting for 7-8 months. In that period also I could not really recover as

I was experimenting only at times. It was just very difficult. (But) perhaps that will help him recover faster,” he said.

Anand was interacting with students, journalists and chess lovers across 19 cities — simultaneously from New Delhi.

Talking about his role as India’s ambassador in the world of chess, Anand said that he was doing his bit to take chess to as many people as possible. “Chess has definitely made me go to places where I would not have otherwise gone. Yesterday I was in Bihar and before that I had gone to Assam and Manipur.

“For me its not about coaching someone to be a good chess player but rather making more people know the game. Many people still do not follow the game and I want to reach out to them,” he said.

The Hitavda

NAGPUR

DECEMBER 16, 2008

New Apostolic English High School



Winner students with teachers.

THE annual Digital Art Festival was conducted by NIIT for school students in PAINT 2008 & online painting competition in the school. This competition was aimed at enabling the young minds to express their creativity through technology. The competition had been organised for sub junior, junior and senior category. The competition was held throughout India. From New Apostolic English High School, the students from junior and Senior section have participated in this competition. Tanushree Bhure of standard VII bagged the first prize in the West Zone competition. The other school student who won the school level competition in the sub junior category are - Samiksha Bulkunde, Vaibhav Meshram, Mayuri Soni, Nirali Rana, Cassablonka Pimplapure. This competition was conducted under the guidance of H O D of computer section Pallavi Verma & computer instructor Reema Sontakke.

Principal Vinita Bower, H M Dr Benjamin congratulated Tanushree Bhure on her achievement. She gives the credit of her success to principal Vinita Bower.

Mail Today
 NEW DELHI
 DECEMBER 23, 2008

Punjab Kesari
 CHANDIGARH
 DECEMBER 19, 2008

Celebs make a bee-line for Patna



CHECKMATE: Vishy and Deputy CM Sushil Modi

IT is celebrity time in Bihar these days. Last week, it was the turn of chess wizard Vishwanathan Anand and tabla maestro Zakir Hussain to land in Patna.

Anand was here to inaugurate the Mind Champion Academy that aims at producing 'world chess champions of the future' from rural India while Hussain was in the city to regale the lovers of Indian classical music with his long-awaited concert. Both the celebs turned nostalgic about Bihar. Hussain recalled his last visit to Patliputra more than two decades ago and promised his fans that his next one would not take so long. Vishy, on the other hand, recalled his father's association with the state. He said that though it was his maiden visit to Bihar, his father had studied at Jamalpur in Munger district long, long ago. His fans were mighty pleased with the world champ's hitherto unknown 'Bihar connection'.



पटना में विश्व चैम्पियन विश्वनाथन आनंद से चाल चलना सीखते बिहार के उपमुख्यमंत्री सुशील कुमार मोदी।

Nai Duniya
NEW DELHI
DECEMBER 19, 2008

देश भर में शतरंज का प्रसार है मेरा सपना : आनंद



विश्वनाथन आनंद को सम्मानित करते बिहार के उपमुख्यमंत्री सुशील कुमार मोदी नईदुनिया

पटना (नईदुनिया ब्यूरो)। विश्व चैंपियन विश्वनाथन आनंद ने गुरुवार को कहा कि वह भारत में शतरंज के विकास के लिए इसे देश के सभी हिस्सों तक पहुंचाकर अपना वर्षों पुराना सपना पूरा करना चाहते हैं। भारतीय सुपर ग्रैंडमास्टर आनंद ने यहां एक समारोह में कहा कि बच्चों के भीतर यह खेल तेजी से लोकप्रिय होता जा रहा है, लेकिन बदलते वक्त को देखते हुए उन्हें तकनीकी मदद दी जानी भी निहायत जरूरी है। उन्होंने कहा, 'शतरंज को देश के सभी हिस्सों में पहुंचाने के मकसद से ही मैं कंप्यूटर शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में सक्रिय एनआईआईटी की माइंड चैंपियंस अकादमी का हिस्सा बना था। यह अकादमी कंप्यूटर के माध्यम से बच्चों को शतरंज का प्रशिक्षण दिलाने के लिए सभी जरूरी साधन, सुविधाएं एवं मार्गदर्शन मुहैया कराती है।' इस अवसर पर एनआईआईटी के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष डा. एस एन उमा ने बिहार में इस तरह की 400 अकादमियां खोलने की घोषणा की।

यह कंपनी देश भर में 500 से अधिक माइंड चैंपियन अकादमी खोल चुकी है। समारोह में मौजूद बिहार के उप मुख्यमंत्री सुशील कुमार मोदी ने कहा कि कंप्यूटर के माध्यम से बच्चों को शतरंज की बारीकियों से अवगत कराना काफी प्रशंसनीय कदम है।

Nai Duniya

NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 20, 2008

सफल होने के लिए रिस्क तो लेना ही पड़ेगा : आनंद

नई दिल्ली (खेल संवाददाता)।

जीवन में सफल होने के लिए, खतरों तो उठाने ही पड़ेंगे। यह मूलतः विश्वास है शतरंज के विश्व चैंपियन विश्वनाथन आनंद ने। शुक्रेवार को राजधानी में एक प्रमोशनल कार्यक्रम में आनंद ने जीवन में सफल होने के गुर बताए। आनंद ने कहा, 'किमी भी बड़ी चैंपियनशिप में खेलते समय आपको आक्रामक होना पड़ेगा और खतरों भी उठाने पड़ेंगे। यह मूलतः आपके जीवन में भी लागू होता है। यदि सफलता पानी है तो स्वयं के भीतर अपने विषय के प्रति जज्बा होना जरूरी है। साथ ही खतरा उठाने की हिम्मत भी होनी चाहिए।'

आनंद ने जर्मनी के बॉन शहर में रूस के क्रैमलिक को हराकर विश्व शतरंज चैंपियनशिप जीती थी। अपनी सफलता का रहस्य बताते हुए आनंद ने कहा, 'क्रैमलिक के खिलाफ भी मैंने यही किया था। मैंने अपनी योजनाओं से क्रैमलिक को आश्चर्य में डाला। मैं जानता था कि क्रैमलिक मेरी उन चालों को भलीभांति जानता है जिन्हें मुझे

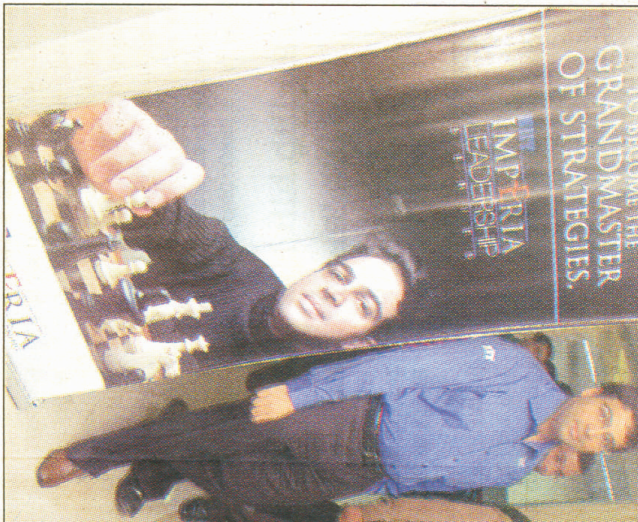
माहिर माना जाता है।'

हमेशा आशावादी होना होगा

विश्व चैंपियन ने कहा, 'आप कोई भी खेल खेलें उसमें असफलता की संभावना बनी रहती है, लेकिन आपको आशावादी होना होगा। साथ ही कुछ खतरा भी उठाना होगा तभी सफलता आपके हाथ लगेगी। शतरंज में यदि आप ड्रा के लिए खेलते हैं और तो यह एक गलत सोच है। आपको यह बात नहीं सोचनी है कि आपके पास कोई मौका नहीं बचा है। सकारात्मक होना बहुत जरूरी है। यही बात आम जीवन में भी लागू होती है।'

वर्ष 2008 बहुत लकी रहा

आनंद ने कहा कि उनके लिए वर्ष 2008 बहुत अच्छा रहा जिसमें उन्होंने तीसरी बार विश्व खिलाब हासिल किया। आनंद ने कहा, 'मैं जब 2008 पर नजर डालता हूँ तो मैं संतोष के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि मेरे लिए यह अच्छा वर्ष रहा। तीसरी बार



आनंद शुक्रेवार को एक प्रमोशनल कार्यक्रम में शरीक हुए

रवि बजा

विश्व खिलाब जीतना वाकई खास है। मैंने विश्व चैंपियनशिप जीतने के अलावा लिनरेस और प्रिज में भी खिलाब जीती। हालांकि बिलबाओ में मेरा प्रदर्शन खराब रहा था। इसे छोड़ दिया जाए तो ओवरऑल मेरा प्रदर्शन बढ़िया रहा।'

मुश्किल था बॉन में खिलाब जीतना

यह पूछने पर कि अपने तीन खिलाबों में वह सबसे ज्यादा मुश्किल किसे मानते हैं। सुपर ग्रैंडमास्टर आनंद ने कहा, 'मिस्सेंहेर बॉन में जीता गया खिलाब। हालांकि मेरी नजर में हर खिलाब काफी मुश्किल होता है। जब हम जीत जाते हैं तब ऐसा लगता है कि सब कुछ ठीक रहा था।' विश्व चैंपियनशिप की कामयाबी के लिए आनंद ने कहा, 'इस चैंपियनशिप से पहले बिलबाओ में मेरा प्रदर्शन वाकई खराब रहा था लेकिन मैं इससे ज्यादा चिंतित नहीं था क्योंकि मैं अपनी संवश्रेष्ठ चालों को बॉन के लिए सुरक्षित रखना चाहता था।'

कार्लसन सबसे प्रतिभाशाली

मौजूदा शतरंज परिदृश्य पर आनंद ने कहा, 'शतरंज अब पहले के मुकाबले ज्यादा युवा हो गया है। खिलाड़ी कम उम्र में भी अपने निकलकर आ रहे हैं। उन्होंने नर्वे के 17 वर्षीय मैगस कार्लसन को दुनिया का सबसे प्रतिभाशाली खिलाड़ी बताते हुए कहा कि उनमें विश्व चैंपियन बनने के पूरे गुण मौजूद हैं। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि विश्व चैंपियनशिप से पहले उन्होंने कार्लसन से थोड़ी बहुत मदद भी ली थी।'

खुद पर निर्भर है खेल को प्रमोट करना

क्रिकेट के अन्य खेलों पर हावी हो जाने का सवाल उठाए जाने पर आनंद ने कहा, 'मैं इस बात को नहीं मानता। क्रिकेट खुद को प्रमोट कर रहा है। यह अन्य खेलों पर निर्भर करता है कि वे खुद को प्रमोट करें। हम शतरंज में अच्छा खेल रहे हैं। बहुत से खिलाबों में बच्चे इस खेल को अपनाते लगे हैं और यह लोकप्रिय भी होने लगा है।'

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