







NIIT Chairman Rajendra Pawar and Syeda Imam light the ceremonial lamp as NIIT University's chairman, Karan Singh, looks on from behind

## Green showcase at NIIT University

By Karishma Goenka

NIIT UNIVERSITY'S vast campus in Neemrana, Rajasthan, now has four-legged visitors it has never seen before. Porcupines, for instance, are regulars on the campus that was named the 'greenest and most environment-friendly' at India Today Education Summit held earlier this year.

The green campus was the showcase at the university's fourth annual lecture this past Saturday. It earth-air tunnels for a natural ventilation effect and it harvests sunlight through transparent roofs, and both projects act as major energy savers for the university.

Additionally, NIIT University students have planted a number of trees on a neighbouring hill-ock named 'Kali Pahari' in an effort to convert it into a 'Hari (green) Pahari'. They have also planted 3,000 trees in the stretch of land surrounding the university using drip irrigation.

The university, meanwhile, has created a dozen check dams to not only control soil erosion, but also harvest rain-water. The second undergraduate hostel on the campus has been designed in a way to envelope a tree, rather than cutting it out of the way. The campus is also 'pedestrian only' to minimise fossil fuel use. These green efforts have not only attracted porcu-

pine, but also various species of nesting birds and a rare local plant named 'Jal Pilu'.

"The students have a nature lab to themselves, where they get the opportunity to not only give to nature, but also watch it respond to their efforts," says Rajendra Pawar, chairman and co-founder of NIIT, said. He has been actively involved in the university's environmental initiatives. "We must start the reversal of environmental degradation in time," he said.

Delivering the annual lecture, Syeda Imam, communications guru and member of the National Commission for Minorities, said: "It is important for us as a society to be listening and caring towards each other and not wait for the government to listen and care."

The NIIT University chairman and Rajya Sabha MP, Karan Singh, dwelt on issues confronting the country, including the need for electoral reforms. As the first chairman of Project Tiger, he said, he had always supported environmental initiatives.

He made a case for people to get out of the 'me' mindset and look at the bigger picture. In a short but inspiring message to the assembled students, he said, "If our generation has made a mess of things, it is up to you to make it better."

Students of NIIT University have planted 3,000 trees in the land around the campus using drip irrigation

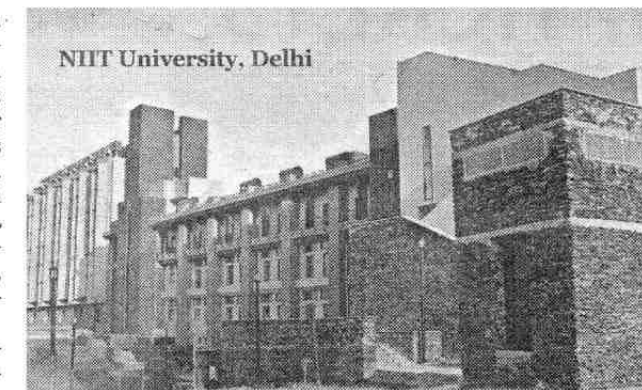


## Here are a few MBA programmes that infuse creativity into the management curriculum CUSTOMISED MBAS TO SCALE UP GROWTH

EXlService Holdings in partnership with IIM-Lucknow will deliver a one-year on-campus business management programme for executives at the institute's Noida campus from April 2013. IIM-L will deliver modules on general management while EXL will design and deliver industry-focused modules on consulting, analytics and operational excellence.

The programme will comprise state-of-the-art industry-relevant content and will be delivered through instructor-led training, case studies and project work. Students will have to undertake an integrated project and complete it within the same year.

Working professionals with more than five years of experience will be eligible for the programme that will be offered for six days in a quarter over one year. The course will include 120 hours dedicated to general management while more than 30 hours will be devoted to consultative and analytics capabilities. Intake for April 2013 is over. Admissions for April 2014



will begin in July next year. Details at [www.iiml.ac.in/post\\_graduate\\_program\\_ipmx.html](http://www.iiml.ac.in/post_graduate_program_ipmx.html).

### ICICI's MBA

NIIT University (NU), New Delhi, in partnership with ICICI Bank, offers a two-year residential MBA in finance and banking. Working professionals with a minimum of three years full-time experience can apply to this programme that has two intakes — April and October. Selection is based on an aptitude test followed by group discussion, psychometric profiling

and interview.

The course is spread over eight terms of three months duration each. Fee is ₹4.5 lakh per annum and during the internship, you would be paid a stipend of ₹10,000. The course also assures placement with ICICI Bank at a Grade II Level Entry with an annual compensation of ₹15 lakh depending on prior experience. However, there is a bond with ICICI to work with them for three years. Next batch will commence on October 21, 2013. Details at [www.niituniversity.in/academics/management-programmes/](http://www.niituniversity.in/academics/management-programmes/)

[mba-finance-banking/about-the-course.](#)

### IIT-Delhi's certificate course

IIT-Delhi will offer a six-month specialised certificate course in business management from January, 2013. The course is open to graduates of any discipline. The course will be conducted in a blended mode with a combination of contact and on-line classes. For online classes, IIT-D has tied up with WizIQ.

This course is ideal for students in their final year, working or aspiring to be in jobs that need an understanding of organisational functioning. The programme also has in-campus sessions. The first and last phase will comprise regular classes in IIT-D campus while the second phase will comprise online classes from WizIQ. You will receive orientation to attend online classes on WizIQ and be issued login credentials.

Last day to apply is December 15. Details at [www.iitd.ac.in](http://www.iitd.ac.in).

— Team Edex

Indian Express, Chennai, November 12, 2012





# शिक्षा व उद्योग का जुड़ाव जरूरी : कर्णसिंह

एनआईआईटी विश्वविद्यालय में चौथा वार्षिक व्याख्यान

शाहजहांपुर / नीमराना (सुनील जोशी/वीरेंद्र यादव): राज्यसभा सदस्य एवं एनआईआईटी विश्वविद्यालय के चेयरपर्सन डॉ. कर्णसिंह ने तकनीकी शिक्षा पर जोर देते हुए कहा कि आज का वक्त चुनौतीपूर्ण है। छात्र-छात्राओं को शिक्षा व उद्योग का परस्पर जुड़ाव एवं तकनीकी आधारित शोध उन्मुखी और बाधा रहित शिक्षा के मूल्य निर्मित ही ऐसी शिक्षा दी जानी चाहिए। जिनसे आने वाले समय में चुनौतियों का मुकाबला किया जा सके।



डॉ. कर्णसिंह शनिवार को जापानी जोन स्थित एनआईआईटी विश्वविद्यालय में आयोजित चौथा वार्षिक व्याख्यान में उपस्थित छात्र-छात्राओं, अकादमिक एवं उद्योग जगत की हस्तियों को सम्बोधित कर रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि आज उच्च शिक्षा के सामने आ रही कई चुनौतियों और उन कल्पनाशील उपायों पर भी गहनतापूर्वक विचार-विमर्श किया जाना चाहिए, जिन उपायों को 'भविष्य के नेतृत्वकारी लोग' तैयार करने के लिए शैक्षिक संस्थाओं द्वारा अपनाया जरूरी है। इस मौके पर अल्पसंख्यक आयोग की सदस्य कु.सैयदा बिल्ग्रामी इमाम ने कहा कि विश्वविद्यालय ज्ञानयुक्त समाज के विकसित

नीमराना एनआईआईटी विश्वविद्यालय में आयोजित वार्षिक व्याख्यान को सम्बोधित करते राज्यसभा सांसद डॉ. कर्णसिंह।

होते क्षेत्रों की उच्च शिक्षा व अध्ययन में कल्पनाशीलता लाने की कल्पना के साथ अत्याधुनिक टेक्नोलॉजी द्वारा सक्षम शिक्षण पद्धति से सराबोर हो जिससे प्रभावी शोध आधारित पाठ्यक्रम से लागू किया जाना चाहिए ताकि

ज्ञानार्जन और विकास की सतत प्रक्रिया चलती रहे। कार्यक्रम में चेयरपर्सन सहित अतिथियों ने शोध कर्ताओं तथा एम.टेक व एमबीए छात्र-छात्राओं को डिग्री एवं गोल्ड मॅडल प्रदान किए। एनआईआईटी विश्वविद्यालय के फाउण्डर

प्रो.आरएस पंवार, अध्यक्ष डॉ.राजीव शौरी, इन्फोटेकवर कमलसिंह, एमडीवीएम पारले स्कूल प्रिंसिपल सत्यवीरसिंह राव, नीमराना फॉर्ट पैलेस के प्रबंध निदेशक अमननाथ, शेरसिंह निभोरिया, सुमोना भट्टाचार्या, पूजा आदि उपस्थित थी।

Punjab Kesari, Jaipur, November 18, 2012

## NIIT university holds annual lecture

NIIT University (NU), Alwar, Rajasthan, recently held the fourth annual lecture by Karan Singh, chairperson, NIIT University and Member of Parliament. The event was held at the NIIT University campus. Syeda Bilgrami Imam, an award-winning public service communications professional and member of National Commission for Minorities gave a lecture on seamless growth and connectedness.

Indian Express, Chennai, December 3, 2012



## एनआईआईटी का चौथा वार्षिक व्याख्यान उद्योग और शोध से एनआईआईटी का गहरा रिश्ता : डॉ. कर्ण सिंह

नीमराना, 17 नवंबर। ज्ञानयुक्त समाज के विकसित होते क्षेत्रों की उच्चशिक्षा व अध्ययन में कल्पनाशीलता लाने की संकल्पना के साथ स्थापित की गई, गैरलाभकारी एनआईआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी ने आज एनआईआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी के चेयरपर्सन और माननीय संसद सदस्य, डॉ. कर्ण सिंह के चौथे वार्षिक व्याख्यान की मेजबानी की। एनआईआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी, नीमराना में हुए इस आयोजन में बाधामुक्त विकास और संबद्धता पर एक प्रेरक बातचीत - "ओनली कनेक्ट" भी हुई। यह बातचीत प्रसिद्ध कम्युनिकेशन गुरु और राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग की सदस्य कु. सैयदा इमाम द्वारा की गई। इस महत्वपूर्ण मौके पर अकादमिक व उद्योग जगत के दिग्गज लोग और छात्र, शिक्षा और उभरती हुई ज्ञानयुक्त अर्थव्यवस्था के बीच संबंध स्थापित करने की तात्कालिक आवश्यकता पर विचार-विमर्श करने के लिए एकत्र हुए। उन्होंने आज उच्चशिक्षा के सामने आ रही कई चुनौतियों और उन कल्पनाशील उपायों



पर भी गहनतापूर्वक विचार-विमर्श किया जिन उपायों को 'भविष्य के नेतृत्वकारी लोग' तैयार करने के लिए शैक्षिक संस्थाओं द्वारा अपनाया जरूरी है। एनआईआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी जिसे भारत में सबसे हरा-भरा और सबसे पर्यावरण हितैषी कैम्पस माना जाता है, उद्योग के साथ उपयोगी संपर्क निर्मित करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करके और प्रभावी शोध क्षमताएं विकसित करके, ज्ञानयुक्त अर्थव्यवस्था की तेजी से बढ़ती जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए अच्छी तरह से तैयार है। 2009 में अपनी शुरुआत से, एनआईआईटी यूनिवर्सिटी ने पाठ्यक्रमों के विकास और रूपरेखा तैयार करने में शोध व नवोन्मेषता के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति की है।

Dainik Bhor, Jaipur, November 18, 2012





# Shattering the sound barrier



**Job-ready training is enabling youngsters with hearing impairment to embark confidently on attractive career paths.**



## PAROMITA PAIN

**H**er hearing disability had meant that Usha Kumari couldn't dream beyond her secondary school education. But today, this bright 26-year-old woman is a member of the security team at the Vivanta by Taj group of hotels and proudly contributes to her family's income.

Her turning point came through the Indian Sign Language and Communication in English, as well as computing skills she acquired at the Noida Deaf Society. Another NDS alumnus, Gayatri Devi is employed with the housekeeping team at Delhi's Taj Mahal Hotel. The NDS helped her polish her communication skills and, more importantly, carve an identity of her own.

Her father is happy to see her economically independent. "Gayatri is living a respectable life, something that I never believed she would be capable of," he says. Ruma Roka wants more parents of disabled girls to show this positive change in attitude.

When Ruma set up the Noida Deaf Society in 2005, she knew that educating and empowering the hearing impaired to find worthwhile employment was top priority. But she also wanted to draw attention to

the education system in India for those with hearing impairment.

"Teaching here means making them capable of speech. As they can't hear, even if their voice boxes work perfectly they can't produce proper speech. They have limited vocabularies to start with. Yet, year after year, they are expected to sit in classes that teach them as if they can hear. They are then expected to regurgitate answers learnt by heart during exams. What purpose does this serve?" she asks.

Researching education options for this special group, Ruma realised that sign language was not encouraged and the available resources restricted them to menial jobs without any prospect of developing their inherent talent. "In India, 63 million people with hearing impairment miss out on crucial skills because of lack of resources. The approximately 500 government-aided schools have an oral approach and don't encourage sign language," she says.

An important component of the teaching at NDS involves understanding how people with hearing impairment learn. "They think differently. They learn through context," explains Ruma. "There is no direct translation of subjects into sign language. We have to create a context and translate that into sign language to help them understand the content. They are visual learners."

So NDS developed a visual vocational training course that uses a combination of words, videos and pictures. "Remember, their whole perspective of the world is through their eyes," says Ruma.

From starting off with classes at a two-bedroom flat given by Ruma's husband, NDS today has two branches — in Prem Nagar, Delhi, and Hissar, Haryana — and teaches for free thanks to donations from philanthropic organisations. But it is proudest about its 500-and-counting students who have been hired by leading multinational and other companies such as Mphasis, Barista and the Taj group of hotels.

For Ruma, keeping her students motivated is as important as training them to join

► "I started with five students, and they taught me that the hearing impaired were cut off from mainstream jobs because they didn't know English and didn't have computer skills."

the workforce. "People around them seem to be blind to their needs as human beings," she says, adding, "Parents would say their hearing impaired child was like a stone around their neck. They are rarely made a part of family decisions. Girls, of course, have the worst. Parents never stop trying to get them married, taking huge loans and giving dowries beyond their means. No thought is paid to how they will handle the pressures that come with relationships like marriage."

While not many girls are enrolled at present, the NDS doesn't give them conventional options such as embroidery or craft classes. They are taught computers and communication skills.

Ruma wants to start a campaign to encourage more girls to join NDS.

"I started with five students," she recalls, "and they taught me that the hearing impaired were cut off from mainstream jobs because they didn't know English and didn't have computer skills."

It takes about a year-and-a-half to get a student completely job-ready. The instructors too are hearing impaired as the school believes they can best understand the needs of their pupils. There are sessions for corporates too, to enable them to see how people with hearing impairment can add value to their company.

She cites loyalty as a major plus, as the

employee rarely leaves the company hiring him/her. A tie-up with NIIT helped the school source computers as well as teachers for graphic designing and desktop skills. Today, its desktop courses are certified by NIIT.

Ruma isn't sure why she chose to work with hearing impaired students in particular, but remembers always nurturing a desire to teach children who had no easy access to schools.

"When I wanted to learn the Indian sign language I couldn't find any information," she remembers. "People were very surprised when I went to the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped to learn it. Unlike the others in my class of five, I had no child, relative or friend with hearing impairment. There is a huge gap here that must be addressed fast."

Finding teachers for her students was also tough. "Some of my students later trained to teach here," she says. A vibrant volunteer programme allows people from different areas to contribute their bit.

Ruma plans to work on creating more digital-based learning material for improving English literacy and increasing computer access in the future. "Communication and computers will help my students show the world their true strength," she asserts.

© Women's Feature Service

## Special education:

The Noida Deaf Society offers a visual vocational training course that enables youngsters with hearing impairment find jobs at leading multinational and other companies.

(PICTURE COURTESY: NDS)





The corporate waters have been swamped with schools of phishers (read: cyber fraudsters). Lynn Lobo delves into the ways organisations can avoid the phishing bite



## SOMETHING PHISHY!

As the corporate clock ticks towards the future, we are slowly but steadily becoming more vulnerable to a time that is convenient and complicated, luxurious yet precarious. While the spurt of technology has roped in an inventory of advantages, this powerful force does bring with it a fair share of snags as well. One such prominent and raging peril of our technological expansion has to be the onset of phishing scams. Phishing, one of the most general

type of cyber rackets and theft encompasses the act of attempting to acquire vital personal data such as passwords, credentials, financial statements and more while camouflaged as a trustworthy entity in cyberspace or the electronic media. In the corporate context, the technical argot 'spear-phishing' implies the attempts directed at sourcing information concerning specific individuals or companies wrt their personal/official information. "Just like a fisherman uses a spear to target a single fish, spear-phishing targets select individuals. In spear-phishing attacks, emails are sent

with custom content luring the recipient to click on embedded link(s). Spear-phishing is targeted at senior officials in a company who are expected to possess/have access to sensitive information (read: commercial bank accounts, personal /organisation sensitive data, etc). Spear-phishing yields better results for fraudsters as compared to simple phishing. Phishing continues to be one of the fastest-growing mechanisms of online fraud," explains Sunil Sirohi, VP, Technology Services Organisation, NIIT Ltd.

Now that we have grasped the general idea of phishing, we need to be acquainted with the catalog of hazards it holds. "Firstly, business-critical data and highly confidential information are exploited. Secondly, the attacker gains access to a large employee database, their personal information, and private data. A phishing attack allows access to information related to a company's customers available readily on the user's computer/network," warns Sudhanshu Pandit, director, HR, Symantec India.

Today, many firms have been exposed to spam, phishing or malware attacks via sites, including the social networking ones. Employees share too much sensitive data on social networks, thus potentially putting firms at risk. So, how can an HR manager tackle this situation in a day and age when being socially present and technologically advanced are requisites?

Employee education is an important weapon in the face of scams and phishing. Explaining why so, Sirohi says, "It is imperative for an organisation to have all its employees trained on security. Security is not a technology problem – it is a people problem; with the best of technological solutions in place to detect and prevent attacks, unfortunately people still fall prey. An alert

employee can not only protect himself/herself, but also help the IT community at large through their contribution by reporting these scams."

In addition to the above, Deepak Kaistha, MD, Planman Consulting suggests, "Firstly, an HR manager should self-educate about phishing and its risks. Then, he/she should organise awareness sessions and seminars about the dangers of such frauds for the employees with the collabora-

tion of the IT team and cyber experts."

Phishers are looking to bait you with spurious emails and links that appear protected. The question is, will you be 'phished' out of the water or live to swim another day?

lynn.lobo@timesgroup.com

### Voice of HR

Voice of HR is a monthly contest wherein you, the HR professional/aspirant, can participate and share ideas, inputs and insights on the burning issues in the human resource space. The topics for November 2012 are:

1. HR, PAST FORWARD
2. THE NEED FOR FUTURE-READY COMPANIES

Post your entries on [www.ItsMyAscent.com](http://www.ItsMyAscent.com)  
The applications close by the end of the month!

### AVOID THE BAIT

Lubna Markar, senior marketing manager, India & South Asia, McAfee recommends:

For employees: Protect your computer with strong security software and make sure to keep it up-to-date. Hackers have databases containing millions of email addresses. They target vulnerabilities in

email applications and web browsers, and abuse design vulnerabilities in targeted website programmes. Employees shouldn't be allowed to download free screen savers and other freebies.

For the IT managers: Companies should implement strong anti-spam and anti-phishing policies and lastly, be an early adopter of new technologies. Telling us of some of the other strategies that can be

implemented to mitigate phishing. Srinivasu C, head – network & systems, Mahindra Satyam avers, "We are educating our associates through periodic interventions. As a part of our data security policy, we have disabled blanket access of social network sites and vulnerable sites from corporate networks and provided authorised access only to authorised groups. This has helped us curb phishing at the workplace."

The Times of India, New Delhi, November 21, 2012



# Out of Kenya

The jewel of Africa has a close Indian connection

THE SNOWS of Kilimanjaro rise on the right somewhere near where the forests of Savo start. Elephants and giraffe walk slowly as they cross. It is night. The dark African night you encounter on the way to the port of Mombasa. But we are headed further – the beaches of Diani where the rich sunbathe on white sand like crabs at rest. Kenya's tourism call had put brakes on the Tanzanian elephant hunters across the border. Killing for ivory can get you locked up in a not too clean Kenyan cell for life. But what's India got to do in all this. Lots.

Wildlife photographers are catching flights on photo safaris from IT hub Bangalore. Sabyasachi, the Bengali superstar, has written a popular novel on wild game of Kenya. And in the thirties the literary icon Bibhutibhusan penned *Mountains on the Moon* which portrays the village boy Shankar and Alvarez looking for diamonds with the threat of man-eating lions in the Rift Valley of Kenya. The Kenyans are saying 'karibu', which means welcome and picking up the dollars. What a good idea.

Indians constitute 80,000 of the present population of approximately 40 million in Kenya. The jewel of East Africa took a hard toll on the early Indians who went there in search of employment on the railways. Enroute to Diani one stops to eat at a gurudwara, which I am told is 80 years old. The *shabad kirtan* wafts in the African dusk. And tall burly Sikhs



move noiselessly on bare feet serving travellers, clean rooms for stay and divine intervention in a place away from home.

Primarily Gujaratis and Sikhs run profitable businesses, not all by clean means. But they are a hardy lot. At Smokeys, a night eat-out run by Sikhs, I watch a Kenyan couple dig into *tangdi kebab*. The music is Bollywood. In the posh Hillcrest and the commercial districts of West-end third generation Indians boast of a garageful of cars, marble floors but don't forget to keep the TV running for Indian sitcoms. And when it's time to marry, they rent a hall at Jomo Kenyatta auditorium and boogie to Hindi film music under dim lights and feast on lots of sumptuous Indian goodies. When exactly and

how exactly did this happen?

Mumbai's short two hour flight to Nairobi is a good answer. Stars are on way. *Shortcut Romeo*, a new Bollywood film, has the actor dancing in Masaimara. Indians run the best restaurants. They run Safarilink, arguably the best domestic flights company. Scand, the most prolific agency for commercials, is run by Bharat Thakkar. Corporates like Airtel, Reliance in petroleum, TATA Africa automobiles, Kirloskars, Thermax, Mahindra and Mahindra, Essar are providing the manufacturing muscle that is changing the face of Kenya. Most Indians bank with Bank Of Baroda or Bank Of India. While in IT there is NIIT. Akhil Gupta, deputy CEO and managing director of Bharati Airtel, claims to have made major 3G and 4G investments powering Airtel Africa and keeping the upward trajectory going. Airtel ads stare down from billboards in the commercial hub of Westend. Nakumatt, Kenya's biggest retail store chain is run by Gujaratis.

Now the flipside. Fourth generation Indians don't want to come back to India. And neither does India recognise their worth. Living in upmarket ghettos, the east African Indian speaks fluent Swahili, and if they miss India they watch Indian TV serials and the Bollywood film playing at an Inox nearby. Inter-caste or inter-racial marriages are unheard of as Indians and Kenyans live on the other side of the glass door. Though the Indian diaspora has been an important driver of the India-Africa partnership the Africans do not allow us to use diaspora as a resource. The ghost of Idi Amin haunts the Indians who fled Uganda. Will an Amin arise in Kenya? The chances are less but not without precedent. Riots in Mombasa have scalded Indian businesses from time to time. In the eyes of the Kenyans Indians are profiled as shrewd traders who know what to do with the dollar – Kenyan Shilling advantage. But Kenyans are aware of India's quest for oil. Fourteen per cent of petroleum is coming from Nigeria and oil blocks being discovered in off-shore Kenya could spiral an oil hunt of unprecedented dimensions. All in all India has been there done that in Kenya.



Millennium Post, New Delhi, October 3, 2012





## Indian, Chinese Cos in \$6-B Pacts

Reliance Energy, Lanco, NIIT and Ramky group ink agreements with Chinese cos

OUR BUREAU  
NEW DELHI

Indian firms, including Reliance Energy, Lanco Group, NIIT and Ramky group, on Monday inked agreements with Chinese firms for investment worth nearly \$6 billion in India and China.

The investments showcase the attempts by the governments of Asia's two largest economies to intensify economic cooperation.

"We must aim at a magnitude and intensity of (economic) engagement appropriate for the world's two most populous nations," said Planning Commission deputy chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia giving details of the deliberations as part of India-China strategic dialogue.

The agreements include a plan to develop a 2,500 MW renewable energy project envisaging an investment of \$3 billion by Reliance Power and China's Ming Yang Wind Power Group.

NIIT and Province of Hainan will together set up an IT technology park in Hainan with an investment of \$800 million.

China Development Bank will syndicate a \$2 billion (over ₹11,000 crore) loan

**Agreements include a plan to develop a 2,500 MW renewable energy project by Reliance Power and China's Ming Yang Wind Power Group for \$3 billion**

The development comes in the backdrop of fresh security concerns over Chinese investments in certain strategic sectors such as telecom as well as tension over China showing some parts of

India as its own in its maps.

Ahluwalia, however, said both sides discussed deepening of bilateral economic cooperation and security related issues did not figure.

"Security issues are relevant not just with Chinese investment but with that of all other countries. No specific issue regarding security was raised," he said.

The Chinese delegation was headed by NDRC chairman Zhang Ping and the visit is being considered significant in New Delhi as it comes soon after the change in guard in Beijing.

Ahluwalia said there was immense scope for cooperation between the two countries in infrastructure sector. He also pointed at the wide trade imbalance, tilted in favour of China, and said the Five-Year Plan will help address market access challenges. Both sides also signed MoUs to extend technical cooperation in Railways, Planning Commission and NDRC and Nasscom and China Software Industry Association.

The Economic Times, New Delhi, November 27, 2012



## 'Indian IT sector creating several jobs in Nigeria'



The two countries have a bilateral trade of over \$17.3 bn.

PAUL OHIA  
Abuja

Indian information technology (IT) companies are playing a major role in the development of the sector in Nigeria and creating several employment opportunities in the area of information technology in the African nation, a top Indian diplomat has said.

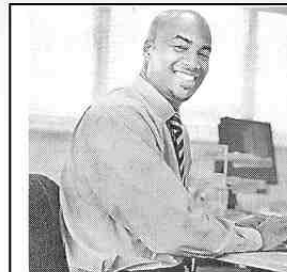
Addressing the visiting 13-member trade delegation here, the Indian High Commissioner to Nigeria Mahesh Sachdev said, for example, NIIT through its 35 franchises across Nigeria, currently trains about 19,000 Nigerian IT experts annually.

"Most of them were able to find ready employment in Nigeria's growing economy with a shortage of IT-enabled personnel," he said.

"Similar other Indian IT training companies such as Aptech, Edusoft and Educomp are also active in Nigerian human capacity building space," Sachdev added. The envoy said the entry of Indian telecom company Airtel to Nigeria two years ago has also provided an impetus to the Nigerian IT industry. "The Indian multinational currently employs around 1,500 employees in its Nigerian BPO centres and has ambitious plans, while other Indian companies such as Spanco and Tech-Mahindra are also in the fray.

"These efforts are aimed at leveraging Nigeria's evident potential of becoming a very significant IT player," Sachdev said. The two countries have a bilateral trade of over 17.3 billion dollar. The delegation, made up of members of Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) of India arrived in Nigeria on weekend. Among other engagement, they held a buyer-seller meet in the African nation's commercial nerve centre, Lagos and the capital city, Abuja. The delegation visit ended yesterday with a meeting with the country's Minister of Communications Technology Omobola Johnson. "It is hoped that this delegation's visit will further enhance our bilateral trade and create a win-win situation for both Nigerian and Indian partners," the High Commissioner said in a statement. PTI

Daily Post, Chandigarh  
November 30, 2012



## Indian IT giants playing major role in Nigeria's development

Paul Ohia  
Abuja

INDIAN IT companies are playing a major role in the development of the sector in Nigeria and creating several employment opportunities in the area of information technology in the African nation, a top Indian diplomat has said.

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Financial World, New Delhi  
November 30, 2012





B-Schools in  
India

**ifbi**

**New Delhi**

Institute of Finance, Banking & Insurance

# NIIT IFBI announces 2nd National Banking Entrance Test for post graduate programs



S. Venkatesh, President

By Our Correspondent

**N**IIT Institute of Finance, Banking & Insurance Training Ltd. (IFBI) – India's largest Banking training institute announced the 2nd National Banking Entrance Test (NBET) for their post graduate programs from August 8th to August 30th, 2012. The post graduate banking programs offered under NBET are Post Graduate Diploma in Banking Operations (PGDBO), Post Graduate Diploma in Retail Banking (PGDRB) and Bank Vantage Career programs.

Graduate/post graduates or MBAs' in any discipline with minimum 50% marks are eligible to apply for the National Banking Entrance Test. The final year graduation students born on or after 1st August, 1986 are also eligible for the entrance test. The applicants can either visit IFBI centre or can apply online by submitting application form at [www.ifbi.com](http://www.ifbi.com)

Flagging off 2nd NBET nationally, Mr S. Venkatesh, President, NIIT IFBI said, "Indian banking industry is on a growth path. This has created a huge demand for trained manpower for the banking sector. A first-of-its-kind initiative, National Banking Entrance Test by NIIT IFBI helps identify and professionally train manpower for this sector, while empowering aspiring youth carve challenging careers with leading private banks in India."

Successful candidates of National Banking Entrance Test can also earn scholarships up to Rs. 16,000 on the various PG Programs in banking, offered by IFBI. NIIT IFBI's 1st National Banking Entrance test (NBET) helped over 1000 students across the country carve a niche as officers in the leading private banks of India.

The Banking Programs offered by NIIT IFBI aims at creating industry ready versatile professionals, who can adapt to working environment in the Banking Industry. These Diploma programs equip a person with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitude for business development roles in Banks, thus making the person a sought after professional by leading organisations in the Banking Industry.

**IFBI, Institute of Finance Banking & Insurance, offers exciting training programs for individuals and corporate customers**

IFBI (Institute of Finance Banking & Insurance), set up by NIIT & ICICI Bank together, offers exciting training programs for individuals and corporate customers in Banking, Insurance and Financial Services.

IFBI set a 100% placement record last year, of placing more than 5000 students in leading organizations like ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Prudential, ICICI Lombard, HDFC Securities, Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Fullerton Securities & Wealth Advisors, thus



B-Schools in  
India



A. Tamilarasi (fourth from left), Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare, handing over appointment letters to three toppers at the training programme offered by the Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance. Chandrakant B. Kamble, Managing Director; Viswanath A. Shegaonkar, Chairman of TAHDCO; and S. Venkatesh, president of IFB

## Message from S. Venkatesh, President, IFBI

Thank you for being a part of IFBI. You are a member of a special group of people who have been the pioneers in IFBI's fantastic journey.

As you know, NIIT IFBI is an initiative to aid the Banking, Financial services and Insurance sector (BFSI) with skilled manpower. With participation from premier banks like ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank and 25+ other Industry partners, we are creating confident, young professionals with hands-on knowledge about modern BFSI sector.

You, our Alumni are the living proof of this endeavor. This community of people, now numbering over 13,000, continues to make significant and distinctive contributions to the BFSI sector. In a few years many senior positions of the Banking Industry will be made of IFBI professionals such as you. It gives us great pride to see you taking great strides in your career. We also thank you for reposing your confidence with us, when we were a young organization. Together we have achieved a lot in the last 5 years.

creating its own niche in developing industry-ready professionals for the Banking & Financial Services sector. The starting salaries vary from 1.5 lacs to 3.04 lacs.

IFBI has rich Banking, Finance & Insurance domain knowledge.

In case you are a graduate, you can pursue Post Graduate Diploma in Banking & financial Services (PGDBFS). It's a 3 month full time program.

Classes will be held 5 days a week and on each day you will be taught for 5 hrs. The fee for PGDBFS is Rs. 50,000. In case you pay the fee in lump sum, then you will just have to pay Rs 45,000 in totality getting a

discount benefit of Rs 5000.

In case you are an undergraduate (still in college or working), you can pursue Honours Diploma in Banking & Financial Services (HDBFS). It's a 20 month part time program, designed keeping in mind the college/working hours. The fee is Rs.65,000. In case you pay the fee in lump sum, then you will just have to pay Rs 60,000 in totality getting a discount benefit of Rs 5000

Initially, you can start with 2 semesters program called Diploma in Banking & Finance (DBFS) and then upgrade to HDBFS. The DBFS fee is Rs 30,000. In case you pay the fee in lump sum, then you will just have



Delhi Convocation





B-Schools in  
India



Post Graduate Diploma Banking Operations Batch

to pay Rs 25,000 in totality getting a discount benefit of Rs 5000.

At IFBI, candidates are trained for multiple skills and their employability skills are enhanced.

IFBI also offers Diploma in Finance and Accounting that equips you to become industry relevant, multi-faceted, Finance and Accounting professional with requisite skills, knowledge and attitude, thus making you the preferred choice of organizations. The fee for this program is Rs 35,000. In case you pay the fee in lump sum, then you will just have

to pay Rs 30,000 in totality getting a discount benefit of Rs 5000.

**IFBI Rated as "Best Training School" in the Banking, Finance and Insurance Domain, says THE WEEK-Nielsen survey**

The respected magazine 'THE WEEK' and the 'Nielsen' Survey on the happening sectors listed the IFBI's Post Graduate Diploma in Banking & Financial Services program as one of the best programs and IFBI as the best

training institute in the BFSI sector. The achievement is a much deserved pat on the back for the institute that has always been respected for its industry oriented career programs designed for Graduate students and industry professionals.

IFBI has constantly strived to provide more value to its students and the industry. The institute has been conceptualizing and updating its BFSI sector program since October 2008, in order to launch many more student careers in addition to the 7000+ students who are in industry already.

The BFS series of programs prepare the student for multiple industry opportunities in Financial Services, Banking and Insurance besides industry certifications. Programs are backed with Placement Assistance/ Assurance options based on eligibility and student performance.

"Our new BFS series programs offer multiple career opportunities, suitable for a variety of opportunities in the growing BFSI sector. We are grateful for the recognition of this initiative from a reputed magazine"- says Samir Kumar, National Retail Sales Head, IFBI.



Student of IFBI Delhi



# HE BATS FOR INDUSTRY-INSTITUTE LINKAGES

Industries must lead the way to increase gross enrollment ratio from a paltry 18 to 30 per cent by 2020, says P Rajendran, chairman of CII's national higher education committee



Rajendran, Sunil Kant Munjal, chairman, Hero Corporate Service, Prof Peter Hodgson, Deakin University, Australia, and Lachlan Strahan, Deputy High Commissioner of Australia to India at the fourth Global Higher Education Summit held on November 8 in New Delhi

DEEPSHIKHA PUNJ | NEW DELHI

**P** Rajendran, chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) national higher education committee, and co-founder and COO of NIIT, spoke to *edex* about the importance and impact of university and industry linkages.

**As chairman of CII's national higher education committee, what steps are you taking to improve university-industry linkages?**

I was invited to chair CII's higher education committee and I have been associated with them for three years. Our mission was to understand and take appropriate action for better university-industry linkages. The important question was to identify the job of industry in the higher education spectrum and this can only start with private industries investing heavily in the sector. There is a base for this, given that there is still a large requirement of colleges across the country. The number of children outside the school system has come down and there are government sta-

tistics to support this. About 12 to 13 per cent go to colleges and universities and that's called GER (gross enrollment ratio). The recent numbers are 18 per cent. Plus, the vision of former Union HRD minister Mr (Kapil) Sibal was to bring GER to 30 per cent by 2020. Our mission is to take that forward and build the capacity to accommodate a larger number of students.

**What are the key factors for improving the higher education sector?**

Many people consider infrastructure to be the most important factor. It is not. We need to change our regulations. We do not need that much more investment to create one more seat. But we may need a certain kind of technology. Meaning, if you start using more technology in the classroom, you reduce the space on one side and where required like in the sports field, a lot can be done. Plus, industry professionals need to be more involved with running education institutions, where we put our expertise at

running companies to offer realistic recommendations.

**What role does the industry play in education?**

Industry has to play a role in terms of working with universities. Its role is also to understand what is being already done and how to scale that up. It's about saying that we are aligned to the future of technology as applied in industry. Somebody rightly said, you cannot base your institution only to service the industry. It has to go beyond, but that does not mean you stop doing it.

**But how is not shutting down an institution that does not match up to the industry standard a solution?**

Many of these engineering institutions which were shut down were churning out graduates on a daily basis. What is the use of shutting a college. The government and students themselves want to be educated. The answer is never shutting down an institution. Shutting down means hundreds of crores of rupees is wasted and that is never of use to anybody.

**So what is the solution then?**

Education is a long-term process. The best solution is for both the sides — the institutions and the industry to create something sustainable. If there are researches, the goal and bar should be raised next year. CII can keep itself on its toes. I am a proponent of having young PhD students. The other solution is to improve the pedagogy in the country. We must strive to train the trainer. At NIIT also we have mentor professors whose main purpose is to guide professors and help them create a knowledge platform for students.

— deepshikha@newindian-express.com



“ THE BEST SOLUTION IS FOR BOTH THE SIDES — THE INSTITUTIONS AND THE INDUSTRY TO CREATE SOMETHING SUSTAINABLE — P RAJENDRAN





## NIIT, Ireland institute team up for digital marketing course

### Our Bureau

New Delhi, Dec 11

Computer education provider NIIT Ltd has tied up with Ireland's Digital Marketing Institute to offer digital marketing education and professional certification in India.

The two announced the launch of a diploma degree in digital marketing on Tuesday. According to a statement by NIIT, the certificate is recognised globally.

"The programme has been developed in cooperation with many digital companies in the world and is recognised in over 25 countries, including Europe, the UK, the US, South Africa and West Asia," the release added.

With India being the third

largest Internet user, the scope of digital marketing is huge and an increasing number of companies are leaning towards the online marketing approach.

It is estimated that global digital media spends, growing at an annual rate of 10 per cent, would exceed \$104 billion in 2013.

The diploma course will focus on engaging customers online, using the Internet as a marketing channel and planning, implementing and managing digital marketing plans for companies.

The diploma is authorised by the Industry Advisory Council that consists of companies such as Google, Facebook, Intel, Microsoft and others, the release added.

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi, December 12, 2012

### NIIT partners Ireland's DMI

NIIT today said it has tied-up with Ireland's Digital Marketing Institute (DMI) and aims to train 25,000 students over the next three years in the digital marketing course. "We aim to create a globally competitive resource pool for the fast evolving digital marketing industry in India. With DMI's expertise in certification and training, we will offer globally recognised programmes in digital marketing," NIIT CEO (Career Building Solutions) G Raghavan told reporters here. Initially, NIIT will offer professional diploma. It will be followed by certificate and post graduate courses. "In the next three years, we are aiming to train 25,000 students and professionals," Raghavan said, adding that the three-month course will cost ₹30,000.

PTI

Business Standard, Chandigarh  
December 12, 2012



## NIIT LAUNCHES 'GET' TO HELP GRADUATES EVALUATE JOB-READINESS

NIIT has launched the Graduate Employability Test (GET) - to enable graduates to evaluate their job-readiness and get career consultation based on their test scores. 'GET 2012', will be conducted by NIIT nationwide, on December 09, 2012. The application forms for the test are available at NIIT centers across the country. Graduates in any stream can register for the NIIT GET by filling the GET Application form and paying the GET Application fee of Rs.299. Students can also log on to [www.niit.com/get](http://www.niit.com/get) to apply online and to get more details. The last date for receipt of application is December 08, 2012.

GET has been designed as a 100-minute objective type examination and aims to assess functional abilities and behavioural traits that make up I.T. aptitude. Every student undergoing the test will receive a personalised graduate employability score-card.

GET aims to cater to this need by determining the candidate's job-readiness which will enable them to know the skill gap in order to be readily employable. The test will assess the aptitude students on the parameters of Problem Solving, Logical ability, Numerical Ability, Verbal Ability, Result Orientation and Teamwork.

GET 2012 results will be announced on December 11, 2012.

Afternoon Despatch & Courier  
Mumbai, December 5, 2012

## NIIT's GET 2012 on Dec 9

### Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Dec 4: Graduate Employability Test (GET), 2012, launched today by NIIT, a Global Talent Development Corporation and IT trainer, will be conducted nationwide on December 9, 2012.

The application forms for the Test can be obtained from NIIT centers across the country. Graduates in any stream can register for GET 2012 by filling the GET application form and paying a fee of Rs 299. Students can also log on to <http://www.niit.com/get> to apply online and to get more details. The last date for receipt of application is December 8, 2012.

Flagging off GET 2012, chairman-cum-managing director, NIIT Franchisee, Jammu, RK Sharma, said, "NIIT's GET will help students to assess their employability quotient by match-

ing their knowledge with skill sets required by the industry. Expert counseling and fee waivers on NIIT's accelerated, placement-backed Diploma programmes will enhance the employability of students".

Briefing about the examination, he said GET has been designed as a 100-minute objective type examination and aims to assess functional abilities and behavioral traits that make up IT aptitude, adding every student undergoing the test will receive a personalized graduate employability score-card.

He further said that GET test takers will get special fee waivers on accelerated, placement-backed Diploma offered by NIIT and complementary entry to NIIT's exclusive mega job fair in early 2013. Candidates will also get to be a part of different Employability seminars conducted by Industry professionals.

Daily Excelsior, Jammu, December 5, 2012





## NIIT offers program in Social Media Marketing

Chennai, Dec. 10: NIIT Imperia- Centre for Advanced Learning, invites applications for its ten week course, Advanced Program in Social Media Marketing. The program is designed to provide participants with the skills and confidence to understand and manage various Social Media platforms and tools.

The advanced program focuses on practical ways to learn from case studies, industry real life examples, assignments with a very

hands-on approach.

Individuals who have basic understanding of Social Media and have accounts in some of the key social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Flickr etc. can opt for this program. Admissions to the programs are currently open.

The program is especially designed for entrepreneurs, marketing & sales managers, MBA students, Business Consultants who plan either to develop or execute

an internal social media strategy or offer social media services either for their own business or for clients.

Candidates can find details of these programs at <http://niitimperia.com/program-in-social-media-marketing>. Application forms can be obtained from local NIIT Imperia Centres as listed in [www.niitimperia.com](http://www.niitimperia.com). Program Fee: Rs.35,000+ Service Tax. Last date for submission of form: 14th December, 2012.

Trinity Mirror, Chennai, December 10, 2012



## Gamechanger

VISHWANATHAN ANAND on promoting chess as an educational tool

The fact that technology has made it easier for chess fans to follow the game religiously, is a matter of satisfaction for Vishwanathan Anand. He was here for the CNN-IBN Indian of the Year award. "When I became grandmaster during 1987, I was the first. Today, there are 28. The number of Indians at the top of the table is huge," he said.

"A few years ago, if you were a chess lover, you had no means to follow the game. Apart from travelling to a championship venue. But now you can follow it live, in any part of the globe, find partners online, play online and also train online."

He explained, "Innovation in chess and training has to do with training the mind to create solutions at the right time. There is no point in having good ideas, when you cannot apply them. The computer trains you for such things."

What's also made the game popular, he said, "is availability of more coaches. If you look at the composition of the top ten chess nations, there has been a huge change. Eastern Europe dominates. But others are showing up on the list too," shared Anand.

He added, "I watch recent games and try to get mental picture of what to expect. It is about prediction and guessing what an opponent's next course of action will be. Chess is more competitive now."

Anand is associated with the NIIT MindChampions' Academy and also grooms young talent.

"The idea was to promote the educational side of chess. It improves self-confidence, concentration and ability to solve problems. We are trying to increase interest in chess and promoting it should be part of a school's extra curriculum. Some in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu are making chess compulsory. We hope other will get motivated too," he said. As for his training academy, he remarked, "That could happen after retirement."



Pioneer, New Delhi, December 14, 2012





## NIIT Imperia centre invites applications

The NIIT Imperia Centre for Advanced Learning, invites applications for its ten-week course in Advanced Programme in Social Media Marketing. The programme is designed to provide participants with the skills and confidence to understand and manage various social media platforms and tools.

The advanced programme focuses on practical ways to learn from case studies, industry real-life examples, assignments with a very hands-on approach.

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**The advanced programme focuses on practical ways to learn from case studies, industry real-life examples, assignments with a very hands-on approach**

Pioneer, Lucknow, December 18, 2012

## NIIT IMPERIA CENTRE INVITES APPLICATIONS

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Pioneer, New Delhi  
December 12, 2012



# Chess instills education skills, says Viswanathan

Chess is not only a game but a fun activity for schoolchildren as it inculcates useful skills for education as well as for life, chess wizard Viswanathan Anand said Thursday. "Playing chess enhances the memory, gives confidence, teaches problem solving, increases concentration...", the five-time world champion said after inaugurating an NIIT Mind Champions Academy at the Global Indian International School (GIIS) in New Delhi.

"Chess teaches you that all moves have consequences," he said, adding this was an important lesson to learn for impressionable minds. Anand, who set up the academy in a venture with IT trainer NIIT, said the idea had come almost 12 years back after talking to world chess federation (FIDE) chief and then Kalmykia president, Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov, who told him how chess introduced in schools of his republic in Russia had led to a



World chess champion Viswanathan Anand during launch of Mind Champions Academy at National High School Boys in Kolkata

rise in the students' educational standards.

"We have seen the same results in India where the academy encompasses 17,000 schools and almost 17 million students all over India. A survey among 8,000 students and teachers showed the students have more confidence.. They showed better aptitude to tackle subjects like maths and

physics," he said.

"Good mental training for studies, chess is not only an academic tool but fun as well," said Anand.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Doraiswamy, deputy CEO and COO of Global Schools Foundation (which runs the GIIS chain of 20 campuses in India and six other countries including Singapore, UAE and Japan),

said Anand was a good role leader.

"Anand became the first Indian Grandmaster. Since then, there have been 28 more," he said, adding the attributes for a good chess player - persistence, practice, memory - are as important in education and life," he said.

GSF's country head, India, Rajeev Katyal said the aim of the chess centre, which will come up at other campuses too, was not to create chess champions but impart a way of thinking, problem solving, handling pressure and other life skills among the students.

However, any promising player would be encouraged, he added. "If we find someone who had potential, we will encourage them to go in for coaching," said Katyal.

GIIS Noida principal Punam Singhal said that students of Class 2 onwards would be encouraged to use the new facility. "We find it will be appropriate for students six years and above," she said.

Hans India, Hyderabad, December 21, 2012





## 'Chess instills skills for education, life'

NOIDA, Dec 20: Chess is not only a game but a fun activity for schoolchildren as it inculcates useful skills for education as well as for life, chess wizard Viswanathan Anand said on Thursday.

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"We have seen the same results in India where the academy encompasses 17,000 schools and almost 17 million students all over India. A survey among 8,000 students and teachers showed the students have more confidence.. gave better answers.



Viswanathan Anand pits his skills against students of the Global Indian International School at Noida on Thursday.

They showed better aptitude to tackle subjects like maths and physics," he said.

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GIIS Noida principal Punam Singhal said that students of Class 2 onwards would be encouraged to use the new facility. "We find it will be appropriate for students six years and above," she said. IANS

Sentinel, Guwahati, December 21, 2012



## Taking digital literacy to masses



Volunteers from chip maker Intel interact with participants at a digital literacy event organised by IT industry body Nasscom and the Nasscom Foundation in Delhi. The initiative from December 10 to 14, supported by Intel, Microsoft, Dell, HP, Lenovo and NIIT, is an attempt to take digital literacy to the masses.

Hindustan Times, Mumbai, December 21, 2012

## माइंड चैपियंस एकेडमी देगी शतरंज को बढ़ावा

नोएडा | कार्यालय संवाददाता

प्रतिभा विकास निगम व एनआईआईटी ने सेक्टर-71 स्थित ग्लोबल इंडियन स्कूल में माइंड चैपियंस एकेडमी की स्थापना की। एकेडमी का उद्घाटन शतरंज के मशहूर खिलाड़ी विश्वनाथन आनंद ने किया। एकेडमी स्थापित करने का उद्देश्य शतरंज को बढ़ावा देना है।

उद्घाटन समारोह में विश्वनाथन आनंद ने कहा कि माइंड चैपियंस एकेडमी की स्थापना से नई प्रतिभाओं को बेहतर प्लेटफार्म मिलेगा है। साथ ही इससे शतरंज की लोकप्रियता बढ़ी है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि शतरंज का खेल शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भी उल्लेखनीय कार्य करता है। लिहाजा इस खेल से अधिक से अधिक बच्चों को जुड़ना चाहिए।



सेक्टर-71 स्थित ग्लोबल इंडियन इंटरनेशनल स्कूल में माइंड चैपियंस एकेडमी का शतरंज की बाजी खेलकर उद्घाटन करते विश्वनाथन आनंद। • प्रशांत पांडेय

Hindustan, Noida, December 21, 2012





## शतरंज खेलने से बच्चों की बढ़ती है एकाग्रता : आनंद



ग्लोबल इंडियन इंटरनेशनल स्कूल में पत्रकारों से रूबरू विश्वनाथन आनंद। जागरण

**संवाददाता, नोएडा :** अब स्कूली शिक्षा के दौरान ही छात्र शतरंज की चालें सीख सकेंगे। इसके लिए ग्रैंड मास्टर विश्वनाथन आनंद ने खुद पहल की है। इनके सहयोग से एनआइआइटी व नोएडा के सेक्टर-71 स्थित ग्लोबल इंडियन इंटरनेशनल स्कूल ने संयुक्त रूप से माइंड चैंपियंस एकेडमी शुरू की है। इसमें छात्रों को शतरंज खेल की बारीकियां बताई जाएंगी, जिससे छात्र शुरुआत से ही इस खेल में पारंगत हो सकें।

बृहस्पतिवार को ग्रैंड मास्टर विश्वनाथन आनंद ने इस एकेडमी का उद्घाटन किया। इस मौके पर उन्होंने कहा कि यह ऐसा खेल है, जो बच्चों की एकाग्रता को बढ़ाता है।

उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि शतरंज खेलने से विज्ञान और गणित जैसे विषयों में भी बच्चे की रुचि बढ़ जाती है, जिससे इन विषयों में उनकी पकड़ बेहतर बन जाती है।

ग्रैंड मास्टर ने बताया कि माइंड चैंपियंस एकेडमी का लक्ष्य है कि देश में इस खेल को बढ़ावा दिया जाए। यही वजह है कि देश के 17 हजार से ज्यादा स्कूलों में इसे खोला गया है, जिसमें 10 लाख से ज्यादा छात्र शामिल होकर शतरंज की चालें सीख रहे हैं। इस मौके पर ग्लोबल इंडियन इंटरनेशनल स्कूल के कंट्री डायरेक्टर राजीव कात्याल, प्रिंसिपल पूनम सिंघल समेत कई लोग मौजूद रहे।

Dainik Jagran, Noida, December 21, 2012



## Computers have taken chess to a different level: Viswanathan Anand

Staff Reporter

**NAMAKKAL:** "From the mid 1990s computers and the internet have taken chess to a different level", World Chess Champion and Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand said.

Mr. Anand was of the opinion that the scores of new on-line games have not sidelined chess.

He was talking to newsmen after distributing prizes to the winners and runners-up in the state-level chess tournament that was conducted separately for boys and girls, on Saturday. He also played chess against 28 persons including the winners and runners up and also signed autographs.

The tournament was organised by SSM Education Institutions in Komarapalayam, Namakkal District recently. The NIIT brand ambassador also issued appointment orders to more than 20 students of the education institutions who were trained under the NIIT Careers @ Campus programme.

Mr. Anand recalled his days as a school goer when chess



**MAKING A MOVE:** World Chess champion Viswanathan Anand playing chess with students who emerged winners at the state-level chess tournament organised at SSM Education Institutions at Komarapalayam in Namakkal District on Saturday. — PHOTO:M.GOVARTHAN

was restricted to clubs and anyone who had to learn the game, new moves and compete with others had to go to those clubs. "Mr. Anand felt that a key for every player is to continue learning.

Earlier, addressing budding champions he said that playing chess also needs psychological and physical pre-

paredness and understanding the body language of the opponent.

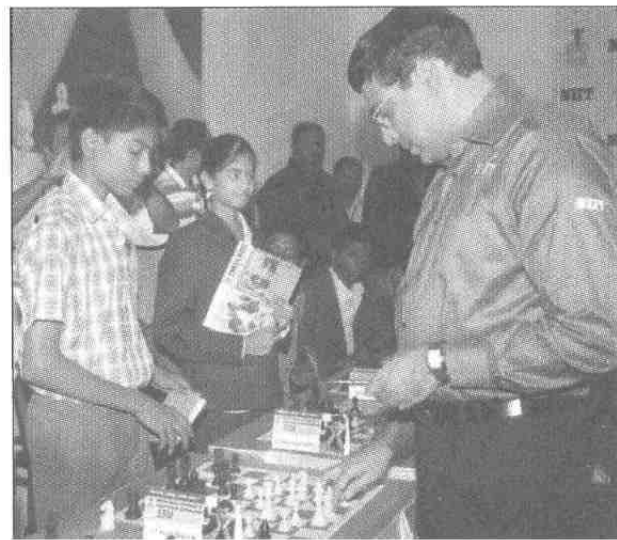
Lauding the efforts taken by the State Government to make chess mandatory in all the schools, he noted that the State Government and Gujarat alone have taken such efforts to promote the game in India.

The Hindu, Chennai, December 23, 2012





## Chess will equip you with life skills: Anand



PLAY IT RIGHT: Anand with students

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Namakkal:** Playing chess will help tide over crisis in life and at workplace and these are qualities employers expect when candidates are screened for jobs, said world chess champion Viswanathan Anand. He was addressing a gathering of students at SSM engineering college in Kumarapalayam here on Saturday.

NIIT Limited, an IT training institute organized the programme as part of their first anniversary of innovative careers at campus programme in Kumarapalayam. He said the programme will help students prepared for employment once they complete their study. "I am confident that these programmes will equip students with adequate skills required for embarking on a successful professional journey," Anand said.

Tamil Nadu government

had recently included chess as a compulsory game in all the government and aided schools. It was a good initiative as the game will enhance their mental capabilities, he said. "Chess will help students to improve their life skills such as communication skills, presentation skills, problem solving skill and ability to face complicated situations in life," Anand said.

Earlier, Anand played a friendly game with 24 persons including class 2 student to chess player aged 34. He played with them for more than 30 minutes. Later he distributed prizes to various students who played tournament conducted by the engineering college a few days ago. He also issued offer letters to students who got jobs through campus placement. Over 600 chess enthusiasts from 80 schools and 60 colleges in Erode, Namakkal districts participated in the function.

The Times of India, Chennai, December 23, 2012



## Checkmate Drawbacks, Says Anand

Express News Service

**Namakkal:** Playing chess for a couple of hours would result in better academic performance, world chess champion Viswanathan Anand told students on Saturday. "Students who play chess in schools, may be for a couple of hours, can train their memory, problem-solving and decision-making skills and the ability to concentrate for a longer period of time," the chess prodigy said after playing chess against 24 players at a time at the SSM College, Kumarapalayam.

"Chess gives students more confidence when dealing with complicated subjects. It will also improve



World chess champion Viswanathan Anand playing chess against 24 players at a time at SSM College, Kumarapalayam

academic performance," he said addressing a campus programme on career, joint-

ly organised by the SSM College and NIIT held at the college campus.

Playing chess would also make students more relaxed, he said.

Replying to a question on whether he would promote the game in rural areas, Anand said, "Though I cannot travel to each and every village, I would engage in promoting the game among the rural children as and when I get time off my schedule."

"The State Government's decision to make chess compulsory for students in 7-17 age group is really a huge step," he said. Only Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have made the game compulsory in schools so that children can be trained at an early stage, he added. Of the 24 players, four were in the under 10 age group.

The New Indian Express, Chennai, December 23, 2012





## Launched

World chess champion Viswanathan Anand launched NIIT MindChampions' Academy (MCA) at Global Indian International School, Noida, recently. A joint initiative by NIIT and Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, MCA aims to popularise chess in schools across India. A number of guests graced the occasion.



■ Viswanathan Anand launched the NIIT MindChampions Academy in Noida last week.

HT Live, South Delhi, December 27, 2012

## Chess instills skills for education, life: Anand

**Noida:** Chess is not only a game but a fun activity for schoolchildren as it inculcates useful skills for education as well as for life, chess wizard Viswanathan Anand said. "Chess teaches you that all moves have consequences," he said, adding this was an important lesson to learn for impressionable minds. Anand, who set up the academy in a venture with IT trainer NIIT, said the idea had come after talking to world chess federation (FIDE) chief, Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov, who told him how chess introduced in schools of Russia had led to a rise in the students' educational standards.

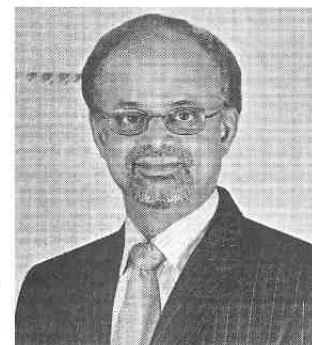
DNA, Jaipur, December 24, 2012



## GNIIT

NIIT, a global talent development corporation and Asia's largest IT trainer, launched the GNIIT programme that can be pursued anywhere anytime, by leveraging their unique cloud learning methodology in 2011. The pioneering NIIT cloud campus (CC) empowers students to learn on their own terms, at their own pace, wherever and whenever they want it. Students enjoy higher mobility as they can easily access educational services using a Netbook or a mobile device that connects them to NIIT's cloud campus network. These services are managed by NIIT centrally using CC.

One of the most important initiatives of NIIT in recent times, the new GNIIT syllabus is based on the educational paradigm called collaborative learning which takes



**The use of cloud platform ensures that students can procure the avant-garde training from any corner of the globe and equip themselves with skill sets that employers' value — G RAGHAVAN**

globe and equip themselves with skill sets that employers' value. Thus helping them chart exciting careers in information technology."

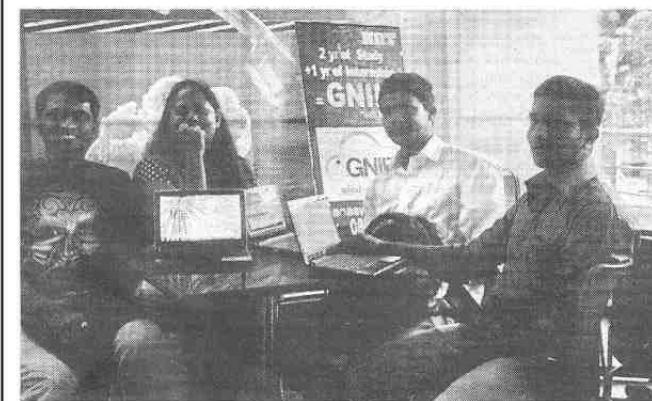
The uniqueness of the GNIIT programme also lies in its professional practice which a year-long internship that gives the students the opportunity to work at leading IT organisations. This one year internship gives exposure to 'live' case studies and a stipend that lets them earn-while-they-learn. Moreover, with recruitment in over 3,000 companies, the programme gives a jump-start to students' careers. NIIT students have started their careers in leading organisations like Infosys, TCS, Wipro, IBM, etc.

With their recent architecture modification through an update to ICR 3.0 from ICR 2.0, they have enabled students to access their solution from anywhere. It boasts of class-wise content packaged in a DVD. The current NIEF content is segmented into class-wise modules, online assessments and a repository of NIIT question bank accessible through cloud. They conduct a performance analysis, which prepares a basic analysis on areas of strengths and weakness of the student and also enable parent login that ensures access points for parents to check on progress of the ward and child login as the access point for login into cloud services and usage tracking which logs the usage of services by the end user. The approximate fee charged for GNIIT cloud campus is ₹2,75,000. Visit [www.cloud-campus.nit.com](http://www.cloud-campus.nit.com).

— preethi@newindianexpress.com

### GET IN TOUCH

Mail your contributions and feedback to:  
[edex@newindianexpress.com](mailto:edex@newindianexpress.com)



students beyond the traditional classroom based student-teacher relationship. Students enrolling for the programme are provided with a technically robust netbook, a well designed digital courseware and a fully paid data card. Furthermore, the technology backed learning environment of NIIT's Cloud Learning Methodology supports group learning through interactive features like 24x7 lab and e-library access, instant tech updates, interaction with faculty and peers and access to online video streams. Thus, the learning process is not just limited to textbooks but is enhanced through group learning.

The six-semester industry-endorsed curriculum for students includes software engineering track, networking and infrastructure management track, business systems and information management track. G Raghavan, chief executive, Career Building Solutions, NIIT, remarks, "The new-age GNIIT programme helps create a pool of trained professionals for today's globalised knowledge economy. The use of cloud platform ensures that students can procure an avant-garde training from any corner of the

Indian Express, Chennai, December 24, 2012





## Making the move

**Last week, NIIT launched the Mind Champions Academy at the National School of Boys**

It is a good sign if your child spends time with the chessboard, brainstorming over how to breakthrough the opponent. Apart from being an interesting teatime game chess paves way for one to thrive in academic and professional pursuits. Research confirms that



those who play the game enhance their power of concentration and scope of thought.

To encourage children towards the game, National

Institute of Information Technology launched the Mind Champions Academy on 17 December at the National High School for Boys and Girls, Kolkata. Since 2002, MCA – the brainchild of NIIT and Vishwanathan Anand – has already encouraged more than 17,000 schools across India.

"I want this game to become viral. The awareness level should come up and most importantly, people should play it naturally," says Anand. It is the first institution in India to run a certificate programme affiliated to the Indira Gandhi National Open University. "It has been some time now we are trying to popularise chess across all schools in India. We are pleased to partner with National High School," he adds.

Anand launched the programme along with S Radhakrishnan, president, NR Iyer Memorial Educational Society, KR Sriram, secretary, NR Iyer Memorial Educational Society, R Jagannathan, assistant secretary, NR Iyer Memorial Educational Society, Anurag Dixit, national sales head, School Learning Solutions, NIIT and Debdash Banerjee, associate vice-president, School Learning Solutions, NIIT.

"We are confident about this move and wish to see students thrive in academics. Since Anand is an inspiration to millions across India, there wouldn't have been a better person to inaugurate the institution," says Radhakrishnan.



## Chess instills skills for education and life

**Noida**

Chess is not only a game but a fun activity for schoolchildren as it inculcates useful skills for education as well as for life, according to chess wizard Vishwanathan Anand.

"Playing chess enhances the memory, gives confidence, teaches problem solving, increases concentration..." the five-time world champion said after inaugurating an NIIT Mind Champions Academy at the Global Indian International School (GIIS).

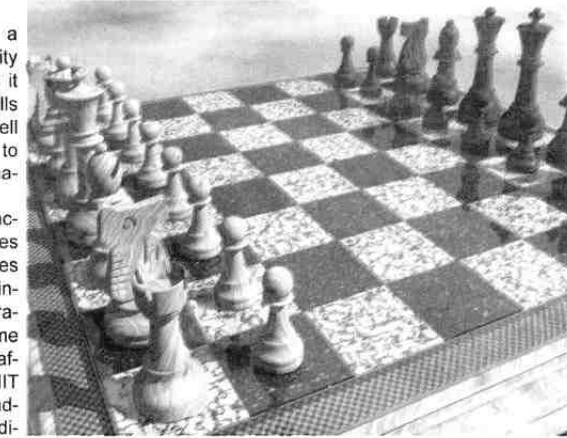
"Chess teaches you that all moves have consequences," he said, adding this was an important lesson to learn for impressionable minds.

Anand, who set up the academy in a venture with IT trainer NIIT, said the idea had come almost 12 years back after talking to world chess federation (FIDE) chief and then Kalmykia president, Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov, who told him how chess introduced in schools of his republic in Russia had led to a rise in the students' educational standards.

"We have seen the same results in India where the academy encompasses 17,000 schools and almost 17 million students all over India. A survey among 8,000 students and teachers showed the students have more confidence.. gave better answers. They showed better aptitude to tackle subjects like maths and physics," he said.

"Good mental training for studies, chess is not only an academic tool but fun as well," said Anand

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Doraiswamy, deputy CEO and COO of Global Schools Foundation (which runs the GIIS chain of 20 campuses in India and six other countries



including Singapore, UAE and Japan), said Anand was a good role leader.

"Anand became the first Indian Grandmaster. Since then, there have been 28 more," he said, adding the attributes for a good chess player - persistence, practice, memory - are as important in education and life," he said. GSF's country head, India, Rajeev Katyal said the aim of the chess centre, which will come up at other campuses too, was not to create chess champions but impart a way of thinking, problem solving, handling pressure and other life skills among the students.

However, any promising player would be encouraged, he added.

"If we find someone who had potential, we will encourage them to go in for coaching," said Katyal.

GIIS Noida principal Punam Singhal said that students of Class 2 onwards would be encouraged to use the new facility. "We find it will be appropriate for students six years and above," she said.







## REWARD FOR SERVICES

**N**IIT Technologies Ltd., a global IT solutions organisation, has received the prestigious American Society for Training & Development (ASTD) best award. ASTD award recognises organisations that demonstrate enterprise-wide success as a result of employee learning and development. It is one of the leading associations dedicated to the training and development field. Its members come from 100 countries and connect locally in 130 U.S. chapters with 30 international partners.

There were 84 companies in total from 13 countries which competed for the award. "It is a matter of pride to be placed on top. Our learning function played a critical role in partnering business growth and has introduced some of the best practices through learning interventions to retain, engage and develop our employees successfully," said Ms. Rosita Rabindra, chief people officer, NIIT Technologies. NIIT Technologies is an IT solutions organisation servicing customers in many regions including North America, Europe, Middle East, Asia and Australia.



The Human Factor, National, December 2012



## Exporting education: Disseminating knowledge and values

Imanuddin Razak, *The Jakarta Post*, Gurgaon, India | Feature | Sun, November 11 2012, 12:07 PM

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world," says Nelson Mandela. The statement by the charismatic former South African president perfectly describes the importance of education for all of mankind.

In most, but not all, cases such a quality needed to change the world can only be obtained via formal educational institutions, namely schools and universities.

To some people, successful career opportunities are only obtainable by those that have graduated from the best institutions.

This is, apparently, the reason why people race and compete in order to gain entrance to the best schools and universities, at home and abroad.

It is also seemingly the reason why schools and universities choose to improve their quality in an attempt to attract the best minds to enroll at their institutions with, of course, parallel positive impacts — An increase in popularity as well as income.

Thanks to technological development, particularly information technology (IT), people can easily access information on the world's best schools and universities or at least within their respective countries or regions as everything is accessible online.

Take the case of the best universities worldwide as an example. The top 10 global universities in 2012, according to the annually published QS World University Rankings, are held by universities in the United States and the United Kingdom, with Massachusetts Institute of Technology of the US at the top and UK's University of Cambridge second.

There are only three Non-US and non-UK universities grouped in the top 20: ETH Zurich of Switzerland at 13th place and two Canadian universities — McGill University and the University of Toronto — at 18th and 19th place respectively.

Asian universities are represented by University of Hong Kong and National University of Singapore, at 23rd and 25th place respectively. Indonesia is represented by the University of Indonesia at 273rd place.

Universities grouped among the top 100 are considerably the most sought after by students worldwide. However, quality comes with a high price — in this case admission and annual fees — meaning that the top 100 universities are beyond the reach of not-rich but intelligent students.

The business of storing, decoding and analyzing unstructured data helps companies increase profits, cut costs and improve service and is one of the world's hottest industries. (Reuters) It is due to financial reasons that those not-rich, but intelligent students opt to enroll with universities grouped at lower ranks. And this is apparently the arena that India's best universities can offer. Five Indian universities are ranked in the top 300, with the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi at 212th place.

With the benefit of English proficiency offered by the Indian educational system, Indian universities are considerably the best alternatives for those non-rich, but intelligent students. It is those English-speaking Indian universities that have aggressively promoted themselves via various means, including advertising.

**Good English-speaking universities, however, are not the only benefit that the Indian education system can offer to prospective students. Take the benefit offered by the Indian talent development corporation NIIT as an example. The institution offers a pool of skilled graduates that global industry may require.**

**The company was set up in 1981 with the goal of helping the nascent IT industry overcome its human resource challenges. In the following three decades, it has grown to be among the world's leading talent development companies, offering learning solutions to individuals, enterprises and institutions across 40 countries.**

"The key problem of most nations is apparently not employment — but employability of the manpower," Ajai Manohar Lal, Chief Business Officer of NIIT, said. "It is the application of knowledge that is needed by students most, not the knowledge itself."

He cited the experience shared by many global companies prior to hiring NIIT either as a consultant or trainer for them. "Companies in new industrial zones have often found it difficult to obtain skilled and capable employees. They immediately turned to expatriates — although the latter are costly — to meet the urgent need of such skilled employees," Ajai said.

"We offer a conduit of skilled manpower in the area to them, helping to solve their manpower problems as well helping them save a significant amount of money in the long run of their operation," he added.

**This is what the Indian education system offers, not only to their domestic customers, but also foreign ones.**

How about the Indonesian education system? Can, or do, we have the interest and courage to "go international" and tap the still abundant market? Only we can answer this question.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2012/11/11/reportage-exporting-education-disseminating-knowledge-and-values.html>





## Indian IT firm to set up office in Kenya

Posted Wednesday, October 31 2012 at 17:15

### IN SUMMARY

- NIIT has a presence in southern Africa and West Africa where it has built strong linkages with respective governments.
- The NIIT centre, to be set up in Nairobi, will target the five East African Community countries as well as South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- The company has also been involved in steering e-governance initiatives in China and India.

An Indian technology firm plans to set up shop in Kenya and take advantage of an increasingly technological society and growing government investment in the sector.

Officials of the Bombay listed NIIT disclosed to the Daily Nation on Tuesday that the company would be opening an office before the end of the year.

NIIT provides Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services to companies in banking, retail and manufacturing sectors. It also develops content for educational institutions and offers IT training.

### Heart of this hub

"We have seen that the market in East Africa is growing rapidly and we want to create a new hub. Nairobi will be the heart of this hub," Mr Sanjay Ticku, who is in charge of the company's business in Africa, said in an interview.

NIIT has a presence in southern Africa and West Africa where it has built strong linkages with respective governments. The company has also been involved in steering e-governance initiatives in China and India.

Mr Ticku said his firm would seek similar partnerships in Kenya.

Kenya has been pursuing an e-governance policy that has seen various public agencies such as the Kenya Revenue Authority offer their data and services online.

Kenya is also constructing a technopolis off Mombasa Road in Nairobi and a proposed local version of the Silicon Valley in Konza that is supposed to host BPO firms and other technology companies while creating at least 100,000 jobs.

Both projects, however, face hitches, with the Ministry of Information recently saying that not all government agencies were making their information readily available.

The ground breaking ceremony for Konza is unlikely to take place this year.

The NIIT centre, to be set up in Nairobi, will target the five East African Community countries as well as South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The company has a global footprint that covers 40 countries with clients in Asia, North America and Europe.

[mumumo@ke.nationmedia.com](mailto:mumumo@ke.nationmedia.com)

<http://www.youtube.com/niitcareers>