



## Careers 360, April 2009

Course Review | ONLINE COURSES

# Cyber classroom

NIIT Imperia's courses, set in virtual classrooms, are geared to enable working executives upgrade and improve their skill sets

by Urmila Rao

Half past six on a Monday evening. The February air is still nippy. Hari Om, 26, is glued to the computer screen, headset wrapped around his head. He is at an academic centre with eight other students, all working professionals. The class starts by the clock and students, bunched in fours, peer into their respective desktops. On their screens is Professor Ashish Sadh of IIM Indore, teaching a module. The three-hour class is interactive, punctuated by surprise quizzes and discussions. Hari Om and fellow student Nalin Gambhir, 23, intermittently turn their gaze away from the screen to scan course material as they scribble notes.

This is one of NIIT Imperia's virtual classrooms, from the house of NIIT. Hari Om, a Delhi-based Bajaj Alliance Life Insurance executive, is one among a motley group of working-executive and-students simultaneously logged in from 22 other Imperia centres spread across 19 locations. He is pursuing a year-long Post Graduate Certificate in Sales and Marketing course. He has been in his present job for 17 months. "The course has helped me improve my presentation skills and helped gain clarity on the positioning of the products I am marketing," says the assistant sales manager.

Programmes NIIT Imperia's courses cater to entry-level professionals as well as those with up to 10 years' of work experience. Long-term management courses extend up to a year. Short-duration courses typically last 4-9 months. The short, company-sponsored, customised corporate programmes range from three days to a week. According to Shraman Jha, senior vice-president of NIIT, the general management programmes attract more students than the

Students are simultaneously logged in from 22 Imperia centres across India





# Careers 360, April 2009

Programmes on offer		
Title of Programme	Institute	Programme Fee (Rs)
<b>General Management (Including Strategy)</b>		
Executive Program for Young Managers (EPYM)	IMT Ghaziabad	98,500
Certificate Program in Business Administration (CBA)	IIM Indore	68,000
Certificate Program in General Management (CPGM)	IIM Lucknow	72,500
Accelerated General Management Program (AGMP)	IIM Ahmedabad	1,94,000
<b>Finance</b>		
Executive Program in Applied Finance (EPAF)	IIM Calcutta	1,70,000
Fundamentals of Finance for Non-Finance Executives	IMT Ghaziabad	19,100
<b>Sales &amp; Marketing</b>		
Post Graduate Certificate in Sales & Marketing (PGCSM)	IIM Indore	1,64,000
Executive Program in Strategic Marketing Management	IIM Indore	84,000
<b>Operations &amp; Supply Chain Management</b>		
Executive Program in Supply Chain Management (EPSCM)	IIM Calcutta	49,500
Executive Program in Managing Business Decisions	IIM Calcutta	1,48,000
<b>Human Resources Management</b>		
Strategic Human Resources Management (SHRM)	IIM Ahmedabad	56,500
<b>International Business</b>		
Post Graduate Certificate in International Business (PGCIB)	IIFT New Delhi	83,500

WHAT DO THE TEACH
<b>Executive General Management Program</b> Strengthens area of current specialisation; develops a strong understanding of Indian and international business, both conceptually and analytically.
<b>Senior Management Program</b> Equips senior executives with quantitative tools and qualitative perspective for taking strategic decisions; broadens business perspective.
<b>Certificate in Business Administration</b> Sensitises, develops capabilities among corporate professionals like building soft skills to enhance personal and managerial competence.
<b>Advanced Program in Strategic Management</b> Provides understanding of market rivalries, institutions and power, leadership and transformations among other contemporary areas and developments from a strategic perspective.
<b>Executives Program For Young Managers</b> Develops competence in disciplines and skills associated with general management; introduces contemporary business models and practices.
<b>PG Certificate Program in Management</b> Provides a background of the Indian business environment, develops essential skills in all functional areas of management, integrating with industry applications.

specific functional ones. "The latter, by design, appeal to a more niche audience," he says. The institute doesn't have any flagship programme. Its offerings range from finance to sales, marketing, international business, human resources and other sector-specific programmes. "The course curriculum is modified depending on faculty response and survey feedback. We tweak the course significantly from time to time," says Jha.

**Partnerships** NIIT forged academic partnerships with four IIMs at Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Indore and Lucknow in 2006. This was followed by the launch of the NIIT Imperia division. Programme contents for specific courses are designed in alliance with partner-institutions. For a few specific courses like Post Graduate Certificate in International Business and Executive Programme for Young Professionals, the institute aligned with the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and the Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad. "The partner-institutions select candidates, conduct all teaching and evaluation, and provide certification to the students," says Jha. There are four programme cycles in a year. "Lectures are conducted from studios located in Ahmedabad, Indore, Kolkata, Delhi and Gurgaon," says Dr Neeraj Sharma, head of Academics. Classes are

conducted in the evening during weekdays. Weekend classes are day-long sessions.

**Payments and payback** The course fee for the executive management programme starts from Rs 19,100 and goes up to Rs 1.95 lakh. A year-long Post Graduate Certificate Programme in Management, with minimum eligibility of three working years, for instance, costs Rs 1.65 lakh. The fee for the Executive Programme in Applied Finance is Rs 1.70 lakh (See table: 'Programmes on offer' above). Executives feel the need for frequent upgradation of skills, more so in the current competitive job market. Hence, most of the enrolments are self-financed. While Nalin Gambir, an entrepreneur, had no choice but to personally fund his course, employed executives like Hari Om are not entirely banking on their companies either. "In the present wobbly job market, we have little choice but to sharpen our skill sets to stay afloat," maintains Hari Om.

"We have professionals from the middle and senior rungs of the corporate ladder, who are readying themselves to take on newer job responsibilities," says Jha. Do these programmes really help candidates strike a fortune in their careers? "We equip people with relevant knowledge and skills. The results depends on how

they apply the learning to achieve the best results," says Jha.

**Profile** Every programme requires a certain number of years of work experience. Barring a few, like Executive Programme for Young Managers, enrolments are done on the basis of the Programme Aptitude Test (PAT), an online test by Imperia. Selection happens through the assessment of the PAT score, professional and educational profile and the statement of purpose provided by the applicant. The institute has churned out 3,000 students since inception. By and large, most programmes have more men than women. "However, the exact ratios change from location to location, and programme to programme," says Jha.

**Paraphernalia** "Delhi Imperia classroom can seat up to 108 students and can have three programmes running simultaneously," states Sharma. The workstations are equipped with a desktop webcam, audio system and microphone connected directly to the faculty at the institutes. The classroom interactions are facilitated by clusters of student-stations where questions are asked and assignments given periodically. Virtual classrooms have become a reality. It is now up to executives to use the virtual realities to realise their career dreams. □



# Mail Today

April 28, 2009

# Get the IT advantage

Even if you're pursuing an unrelated degree, a part-time IT course will help you in this uncertain job market. And for engineering professionals, it's a great add-on for the CV.

By Kunal Doley

**T**HE GLOBAL slowdown may have shrunk the job market like a bad nightmare, but it has spurred young professionals to upgrade their educational baggage. Recruitment numbers are low, so students are using this time of adversity to increase employability. They are pursuing both short-term and long-term certificate programmes in computer education to beef up their CV.

Investing time in skill-upgradation programmes provides opportunities of understanding the latest trends in the job market, along with building on the foundation of existing skills, says Anuj Kacker, global head, Aptech Computer Education. "This is important even if your purpose is not limited to making yourself recession-proof. Employers retain people who

are aware of latest industry trends, for this facilitates increased productivity, which in turn enhances the bottomline."

G. Raghav, President, Individual Learning Solutions, NIIT Ltd, also agrees that students now need to stay prepared. "This year, not too many companies have come for recruitment. So students want to be prepared for the future. They

are under pressure to get trained and be job-ready," he insists.

Today, many institutes have computer courses whose offerings range from the basics to the most advanced certificate programmes. Short-term programmes are popular among graduates and professionals who want to enhance or update their skills in a particular tech-

nology; the longer courses find more takers among those focused on careers in IT.

"Specialised certificate programmes from Oracle, Sun, Red Hat and Microsoft are in demand with young IT professionals and also with those who have been affected by the slowdown," says Kacker.

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G. Raghav, president, Individual Learning Solutions, NIIT, says students are under pressure to enter the market 'job-ready'

By enhancing your career skills, continuing education is the route to job security.



— ANUJ KACKER, Global Head, Aptech Computer Education



**Mail Today**  
April 28, 2009

# Add IT to your portfolio

Continued from page 1

The Aptech Certified Computer Professional (ACCP) programme is the most sought-after course, for it prepares students for IT careers. Typically, undergraduate students from any discipline can benefit from ACCP if they pursue it along with college education. "The ACCP is a modular programme with multiple exit points, so it gives students the option of either taking up the entire three years or taking it in a modular format," Kacker adds.

**Beef up your CV**

This is one area students pursuing degree courses can consider so that by the time they graduate they can add value to their CVs. "Two kinds of students come to us. There are some who want to do a short-term course; there are others who pursue a longer course that's parallel to their regular B.Sc. or B.Com. programme. The second option can be a powerful proposition for students," Raghav says.

At NIIT, such students can go for its three-year GNITT programme that lets students to specialise in a particular sector like software or networking. While two years of this course are devoted to classroom training, the final year is kept for 'professional practice' wherein students get to intern in a firm, besides earning a stipend.

Aptech's ACCP programme too is enriched with a one-year internship apart from programmes in English language enhancement, workplace skills and management information systems, thereby increasing the employability of the student.

It's not just regular college students who go for courses at computer institutes. Engineering students also have shown keen interest in enhancing their skills. Aptech for Engineers, for instance, is a series of specialised IT courses for engineering, B.Sc. (IT), BCA/MCA and other IT students.

"It is an extension of Aptech's portfolio and one of the most exclusive offerings to enhance the skill sets of engineering students," says Kacker. "Aptech for Engineers offers specialisation options in popular application development frameworks such as Sun Java & .NET."

Students may have a degree in engineering but they may not be exposed to technology. Raghav points out. "For such students, when the world is going through a difficult phase, the only way to increase their employability is to go for additional skills."

**Degree or diploma?**

You can also go for an IT degree and the options range from the IITs to the regional engineering colleges and private institutions. The Amity Institute of Information Technology in Noida, for



Group Capt. O.P. Sharma (retd), director, Amity Institute of IT (third from left), says the demand for specialised IT courses will remain

**FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION**

After completing an IT course, you'll find many job avenues opening up. Some of these are:

- Programmers
- Web developers
- System analysts
- Software testing and quality assurance
- Database analysts, architects and administrators
- Software architects, solution

builders and consultants

- Project managers
- Technical writers and documentation specialists
- Helpdesk and technical support
- Management Information Systems (MIS)

■ Students can get employed not only in the IT industry, but also in related sectors such as telecom, banking and insurance, and BPO companies.

instance, offers a B.Sc. and a BCA in IT for undergraduate students and an M.Sc. and MCA in Networking and Management for Master's students.

"New technologies are emerging fast, so companies will have to take more young people with an IT background to keep pace with the changing world. Hence the demand for specialised IT courses will remain," says Group Capt. O.P. Sharma (Retd), director, Amity Institute of Information Technology.

Which option works better – a degree or diploma? Sharma pitches for degree courses. "When you learn about a new technology, a lot of applications are involved," he says. "With a B.Sc. (IT), you can go anywhere. Also, as a graduate

in this sector, you not only learn about the applications, but also brush up on science, mathematics, operations research and human resource management. Your knowledge becomes wider here and your employability increases."

**Countering slowdown**

Sharma says 50 per cent of the Amity students in this year's graduating batch have already been recruited. "The salary packages may not have been as great as it was before the meltdown, but so far we have had a great placement record at Amity," he adds.

Has the global slowdown really affected the sector? "The IT industry is definitely experiencing a slowdown, but recruitment hasn't stopped

“New technologies are emerging fast, so companies will have to take more and more young people with an IT background to keep pace with the changing world.”

— GROUP CAPT. O.P. SHARMA (RETD), director, Amity Institute of IT

completely," says Raghav. "A number of IT firms are still recruiting in large numbers. The recruitment numbers have certainly fallen, but as soon as this phase ends the demand for IT professionals will rise again. Continuing education programmes that increase career skills are the route to job security, whether during a recession or a non-slowdown phase," says Kacker.

"It's an investment that's worth making at such times," adds Raghav. No investment in IT can be a wrong move, for IT is an essential part of our business environment. As Sharma puts it, "No business can take place without IT, so there can never be a serious downturn in this sector."

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# Mail Today

April 28, 2009

G Raghavan is president of  
NIIT's Individual Learning Solutions Division

G Raghavan



MARKET  
MANTRA

## 'All about multi-dimensional insight'

**W**ith the proliferation of IT systems in organisations and availability of massive business data, data analysis is relevant to almost every sector in India. In fact, with the global presence of Indian organisations, data analysis will help provide the edge in a fast-moving global scenario.

In fact, data analysis is all about having a multi-dimensional insight into the data that is available with the organisation. The analysis is based on large volumes of data with historical facts. The process of accumulating data — spread across the organisation in a consolidated manner — is called data warehousing. The process of establishing meaningful relationships and arriving at relation sets is called data mining. The combination of the above provides the decision-maker with critical insight. This helps in better predictions and forecasting the future scenario.

An example may help to understand better. Imagine you are a neighbourhood retail shop owner. If you get down to maintaining a record of each of your customer and their purchases, the records will go into a small database which may be a miniature version of a data warehouse. With a basic analysis of this data or basic data mining you will be able to predict your customers' needs before they arise. This helps you to predict your stock requirements for each item.

Data analysis in a business environment is similar to this process. Only it is magnified multiple times and supported by information systems and technologies to make the decision-making quicker and error free in the face of large volumes of data.

### SKILL-SETS REQUIRED

An analytical mind, the ability to deal with large amount of numerical and textual data and the ability to make connections between seemingly unrelated datasets for data analysis is important for those working in this environment. Now, this may sound complicated, but one is aided by various technology tools in this job. So, as long as one can establish various elements of the database, most of the work will be done by the technologies that one deploys.

In every domain, the productivity and efficiency of a person is established with the help of processes/tools and technologies. There are software vendors who have been working on innovative tools and technologies to provide quick, high-impact solutions to address the business intelligence domain. Therefore, it is advisable to be updated and be certified to gain an edge in the market.

However, the key thing one needs to understand is that one has to be on a perpetual learning mode to keep up with the changing industry requirements.

### CAREER SCOPE

A fresher could start as a data analysis developer. Subsequently, one can be a business information analyst, data warehouse designer, architect or technology specialist to mention a few.

In order to pursue a career in this field, one needs a good academic background, and preferably, knowledge of statistics. Besides, one should have strong skills in database design and programming along with relevant core programming language skills, data warehousing and multi-dimension database design skills. It is also important that one has knowledge of data presentation models and is updated on tools and technologies that are being used in the data analysis domain.

### MONEY MATTERS

The starting compensation in this segment is on a par with industry. While the employee grows in the organisation, his or her contribution to business and analysis increases too. Business analysts are known to have a better remuneration in this industry. As to freshers, the remuneration level is in keeping with other entry level roles in the IT industry. Business analysts can also look for work in several of the top-notch organisations in consulting practices.

The growth in this area is dependent on specialisation in sector-specific knowledge domains within BSFI, retail, manufacturing and so on. People working in this area have to choose their domain of operations for focussed growth. Choice of domain can be based on one's academic qualification and core competency.

— As told to Tirna Ray

## Metro Now

Gurgaon  
April 4, 2009

# TOUGH TIMES MEAN TRAINING TIMES

BPOS JOBS NO CAKEWALKS; TRAIN BEFORE YOU JOIN

JOEL JOSEPH

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Perhaps, BPOs are the only ones hiring during the downturn. However, there is a paradigm shift in the recruitment pattern. It ain't a cakewalk no more: the industry is letting (read netting) in the best from the pool of talent in the market.

So gone are the days when speaking good English landed you a job. With so many skilled people without jobs, the competition is getting tougher. This is when a bit of training comes in handy.

To address the increasing demand for skilled workers in the BPO industry, India's largest BPO Genpact joined hands with NIIT to launch NIIT Institute of Process Excellence, (now known as NIIT Uniqua) in June last year.

Last month, as the first batch passed out of this institute, MetroNow caught up with NIIT's Ashish Basu to figure how the BPO industry is faring and what does the recession have in store

**Gone are the days when speaking good English landed you a job. With so many skilled people without jobs, the competition is getting tougher.**

for it.

"While the recession is certainly not good news for others, it is good for us. The reason being, while BPOs are still hiring directly, they have cut down heavily on the training they used to impart to the new recruits. Due to downturn, there is pool of talent readily available for the BPOs to hire from. So while the ones with good English get hired easily, the ones without come to us for training," explains Basu, president,

new business incubation, NIIT.

"NIIT Uniqua right now has 12 centres, including one in Sector 29, and we have already placed over 30 people in various BPOs last month. The course is spread over two-and-half months and the classes are held for four hours, five days a week. We give a provisional certificate to all those who join us, guaranteeing them a job at the end of the course. The response is good, but only a few are willing to pay," he said.

Talking about the future of BPOs and Obama's rhetoric to ban outsourcing he said, "It is not so easy to ban outsourcing, and the good news is that the bad news has stopped coming. Things should improve in the near future, and even though voice processes are going to countries like Philippines, the back end processes coming to India are moving up the chain. So BPOs in India have pay more for entry level positions. There is no apprehension among individual and nobody is desperate for a job yet."



## Indian Express

New Delhi  
8 April 2009

### **NDMC, NIIT sign agreement**

► The New Delhi Municipal Council has signed an agreement with NIIT Limited for the provision of information and communication technologies education in 29 municipal schools in the city. As per the agreement, NIIT will train teachers and offer computer-aided education to 11,500 students in the 29 municipal schools. A customised training programme will be offered to students from classes VI to XII initially, for a period of one year. NIIT will set up computer labs in NDMC and Navyug schools, and offer training in Computer Science and Informatics Practices for +2-level students, and basic computer education programmes for students of classes VI to XII.

## DQ Week

NEW DELHI  
13 APRIL 2009

### **NIIT aides municipal schools to get computer savvy**

**DQW NEWS BUREAU**  
New Delhi, April 8

NIIT has entered into an agreement with New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to provide ICT education in 29 municipal schools in the city.

As per the initiative, NIIT would train the teachers, and offer computer-aided education to 11,500 students from 29 municipal schools in the capital, said a press release.

NIIT will set-up computer labs furnished with hardware and connected accessories inside NDMC and Navyug Schools. It would offer training on computer science and informatics practices for +2 level students, and offer basic computer education programs for students of classes 6th to 10th, initially for a period of one year.



## Financial Chronicle

HYDERABAD

27 APRIL 2009

# E-learning picks up among executives

RONOJOY BANERJEE

New Delhi

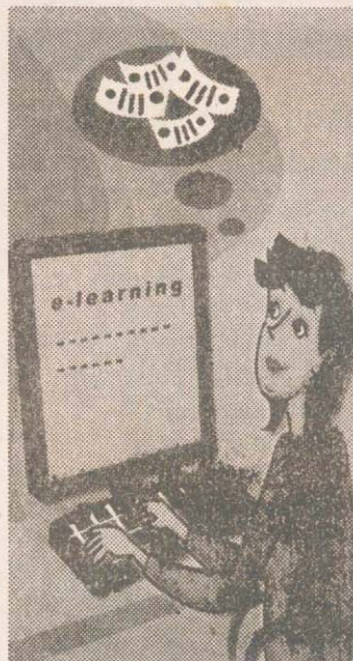
VIRTUALLY speaking, it is back to school for many working professionals in India. As corporate India continues its battle with the slowdown, employees across sectors are logging onto e-learning web sites to enhance some critical skill sets.

E-learning web sites, which are gaining popularity because of easy accessibility and user-friendliness, are becoming an effective way to imbibe skill sets. "In the past four to five months, because corporate demands are rising, we are seeing an increasing number of working professionals signing into our education modules," said Sailesh Mehta,

CEO & founder, Gurukul Online Learning Solutions (GOLS).

In the past five months, GOLS has seen a 50 per cent jump in the number of working professionals logging onto its websites. At present, the website claims to have one lakh professionals as students and Mehta expects the number to rise by 100 per cent by the year-end. The students belong to sectors ranging from IT, financial services to organised retail and logistics.

NIIT's e-learning websites such as [www.niit.com](http://www.niit.com) and [www.hyperlessons.com](http://www.hyperlessons.com) are also attracting professionals who feel that they need an extra edge to fight the downturn. Says Vijay Thadani, CEO NIIT, "In the past six months, there has



Pallavi

been a significant change in economic environment. Since organisations are looking to cut costs, they prefer to draft their training

modules using e-learning, as it is cost-effective. This has resulted in a spurt of professionals logging on to education web sites to upgrade themselves."

However, he added that e-learning alone couldn't be a fall-back for imbibing all the skill sets needed to deal with downturn. NIIT's e-learning initiative has 80,000 registered members and Thadani expects this to go up by at least 100 per cent by end of the year.

"Brushing up skill sets is becoming a norm especially among ambitious youngsters who are looking to excel in their work stations," said Bindu Rana, programme director, R&D, Educomp Solutions.

Aptech Institute's e-learning initiative is also

seeing a similar trend with many working professionals looking at upgrading themselves both through the online and offline routes. At present, the size of online education is about 7.5 million users.

Viennova Solutions, another e-learning website, has a completely different mix of people logging in. "In the past six months, many people from tier I and tier II cities have been taking the e-learning route to learn basic computer education," said Parikshit Jain, founder of Viennova Solutions. In these cities, e-learning has caught the attention of almost 25,000 people, Jain added.

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## The Pioneer

New Delhi

1 APRIL 2009

### **NIIT Yuva Star to enhance youth employment**

**NEW DELHI:** In its attempt to bridge the education-employment gap and create talent pool, NIIT on March 26 announced the setting up of NIIT Yuva Star, a Career Development Centre (CDC) at Jahangirpuri, New Delhi in association with NGO Navjyoti India Foundation.

Dr Kiran Bedi, General

Secretary of Navjyoti India Foundation and Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman, NIIT Ltd, were present on the occasion.

The CDC will serve as a vocational training centre in Jahangirpuri, providing employability skills to youth in the age group 17-25 years. The CDC will provide relevant skills to the unemployed

youth for making them employable for jobs in various industry sectors such as retail, automobile sales, telecommunications, hospitality, healthcare etc.

Students will be provided with internship and placements with the purpose of helping them find employment in the corporate sector.



## The Economic Times

Kolkata

8 APRIL 2009

### IN A NUTSHELL

## NIIT, NDMC ink deal to upgrade education in 29 schools

**NEW DELHI:** NIIT Ltd on Tuesday announced that it has entered into an agreement with the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) to provide computer-aided education at 29 municipal schools in Delhi. According to the initiative, NIIT will train the teachers, and offer ICT education to 11,500 students in the Capital. The customised training programme will be offered to students from classes VI to XII initially for a period of one year.



## The Pioneer

Lucknow

April 14, 2009

# NDMC school children to get computer savvy

**NEW DELHI:** The New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) has signed an agreement with NIIT Limited to provide ICT (Information and

Communication Technologies) Education in 29 Municipal schools in the city.

As per the initiative, NIIT will train the teachers, and offer computer aided education to 11,500 students from 29 Municipal schools in the capital. The customized training program will be offered to students from Classes 6 to 12 initially for a period of one year.

Speaking on the association, Ms. Mamta R Agarwal, Director (Education), NDMC said, "The Chairman, NDMC is constantly striving to make our schools the best in education and facilities. In this regard, we have partnered with NIIT for this project to provide

**NIIT will train the teachers, and offer computer aided education to 11,500 students from 29 Municipal schools in the capital**

the best of computer education and training to our students."

According to Mr L Balasubramanian, President-School Learning Solutions, NIIT, "NDMC's initiative for encouraging computer education for children belonging to lower socio-economic strata of the society is laudable. NIIT's customised training programs will open new vistas of teaching and learning for Municipal School staff and students, and will integrate technology in teaching-learning process".

NIIT will setup computer labs furnished with hardware and connected accessories inside NDMC and Navyug

Schools; offer training on Computer Science and Informatics Practices for +2 level students; and offer basic computer education programs for students of Classes 6th to 10th.

The new program uniquely positions NIIT to become the only training company in India to offer comprehensive ICT education in over 9,500 Government, Municipal and Private schools across the country. Recognising the potential of Information and Communication Technologies to transform the teaching-learning process in the non-formal and formal education space, and its potential

in changing the way teachers and learners gain access to knowledge and information, NIIT's ICT in Education initiative focuses on using IT to enhance the reach and quality of teaching and learning.

For over a decade, NIIT has worked with Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal to offer computer education in schools. Additionally, NIIT has also partnered with many private schools in the country to help students discover the pleasure of learning through computers.





India needs 200 million professional & 500 million skilled workforce by 2022 to realize potential: Vijay Thadani

MBAUniverse.com News Bureau

Apr 21, 2009



If India has to achieve its place of the global map as a leading economy and center for knowledge, it will have to ensure that ambitious goals towards ‘functional literacy’, education and employability skill development be met in the next fifteen years.

Sharing the CII vision on Education, Mr. Vijay Thadani Chairman, CII Education Committee and CEO, NIIT, outlined the four broad vision statements adopted by CII towards a larger vision of [India@75](#) by 2022:

- India achieves 100% functional literacy
- India builds 700 million globally employable workforce, comprising 200 million university graduates and 500 million vocationally skilled people
- India develops world-class infrastructure to become a global hub for knowledge creation, talent development and entrepreneurial incubation
- India meets its own unique domestic demand while setting global standards and becomes a scale provider of value based learner-centric education, skills development and professional educators through industry partnerships.

CII has also created action steps to achieve these goals. These are:

- Education Reforms needed
- Curriculum Redesign needed
- Accreditation Process needs improvement
- Educator training & certification needed
- Qualification & Credits framework needs a relook
- Creation of sectoral skills council
- Focus on Capacity planning

<http://www.mbauniverse.com/innerPage.php?id=ne&pageId=2035>

#### **National policy on skill development in the pipeline**

April 21st, 2009 - 8:58 pm ICT by IANS

New Delhi, April 21 (IANS) A national policy on skill development, approved in February by the union cabinet, was Tuesday said to be a key force in linking education and skill training to ‘employability’ and increasing ‘functional literacy’ in the country.

Addressing a session at the National Conference on Education - 2009 held here at the Le Meridien Hotel, on the theme ‘Linking Education to Employability’, Sudha Pillai, secretary, ministry of labour and employment, pointed out that skills development had to be made an essential part of the educational framework.

She also highlighted that the national level policy on skill development would focus on this.

“This is important as skills have a direct correlation with improved productivity and economic well-being. Also, increased emphasis on skills development and vocational training would help us empower the large number of school dropouts and unorganised sector workers,” Pillai said.



A major policy initiative in this regard, Pillai said, was the national policy on skills development or the national skill development mission. "It was approved by the Union Cabinet in February. The policy aims at empowering all individuals to enable them to get access to decent employment and to promote inclusive national growth. Further, the policy promotes public-private partnership to ensure that the needs of the industry are met."

Pillai refused to divulge further details about the policy's implementation because of the ongoing moral code of conduct for elections but assured that implementation "would begin soon".

Vijay Thadani, chairman, CII national Committee on Education and CEO, NIIT Limited, said that the CII had a vision to achieve complete functional literacy in the country by 2022 and to have a globally employable workforce of over 700 million people, including 500 vocationally skilled people.

According to T.K.A Nair, principal secretary to the prime minister who was also on the panel, improving the quality of education and providing equal opportunities to everyone, especially with regard to functional literacy, were the major challenges that the country faces.

In this context, he said it was important that "...we upscale the ongoing public-private partnerships, like those of the industry adopting 600 industrial training institutes, to ensure that social inclusion becomes a reality."

[http://www.indiaedunews.net/Delhi/National\\_policy\\_on\\_skill\\_development\\_in\\_the\\_pipeline\\_7974/](http://www.indiaedunews.net/Delhi/National_policy_on_skill_development_in_the_pipeline_7974/)



[National policy on skill development in the pipeline](#)

Bombay News - 20 hours ago

**Vijay Thadani**, chairman, CII national Committee on Education and CEO, NIIT Limited, said that the CII had a vision to achieve complete functional literacy ...

[National policy on skill development in the pipeline](#)

Newstrack India - 20 hours ago

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Addressing the conference, Mr **Vijay Thadani**, Chairman, CII Education Committee and CEO, NIIT Ltd. said: "The backbone of a country's growth story is the ...



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