

# NIIT

## NIIT in the News

May 2008

**DATAQUEST**

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

business today

THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

**Hindustan Times**

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Business Standard

The Indian EXPRESS

**Businessworld**

HONCHO-SPEAK



VIJAY K. THADANI  
CEO, NIIT

India's reckoning as the next global superpower can be largely attributed to the success of its IT-BPO industries in the country

## CLIMBING LADDERS

**Cara Gupta Sarkar**

**Where is the IT industry placed in the Indian economy today? Can you trace its growth?**

The Indian IT sector revenue is expected to be about 5.5 per cent of the national GDP in FY 2008, as compared to 1.2 per cent a decade ago. The IT-BPO revenue aggregate is expected to grow by over 33 per cent and reach 64 billion US dollars by the end of the current fiscal year, as per the NASSCOM Strategic Review 2008. The industry is strongly poised to achieve its aspired target of 60 billion US dollars in exports and 73-75 billion US dollars in overall software and services revenues, by the year 2010.

India's reckoning as the next global superpower can be largely attributed to the success of its IT-BPO industry, which has established 'Brand India' and its technological capabilities and talent worth, on the global scenario.

The industry took giant leaps in the nineties and witnessed many new trends such as global outsourcing to India. The Indian IT-BPO has also weathered many storms such as the slowdown in the early years of this decade. Since then, the industry has demonstrated its ability to overcome challenges and is well on a strong growth trajectory reinforcing the conviction in its fundamentally strong and sustainable value proposition.

The success of the industry can be largely attributed to the skilled manpower resource available in India, and will continue to depend on this 'fuel' for growth.

**What is the future of the IT industry?**

The Indian IT sector addresses global IT sourcing and manufacturing requirements. Many global technology giants are moving to India to establish their manufacturing bases here, which can be largely attributed to the large human resource availability in the country. While direct employment in this sector is expected to touch 2 million by the end of this financial year, there is still a need of nearly 1.5 million more skilled professionals to help the industry meet its target in the next three years. With nearly 400,000 engineering graduates, 2.5 million general graduates and over 265,000 postgraduates passing out of higher education institutions in India each year, the future surely shines bright.

**Where is NIIT placed in such a competitive scenario?**

NIIT has been at the forefront of the talent requirements of the steadily growing IT-BPO sector. For over 25 years, NIIT has been providing industry relevant skills to students and professionals to enable the industry meet its

manpower requirements and help millions get an edge in their careers. Ranked at the top of the IT training industry by IDC and Dataquest, NIIT has transitioned from being an IT Training Company to a Global Talent Development Corporation, focussed at developing talent for other emerging sectors of the economy, such as Banking, Finance and Insurance, besides IT.

NIIT's curriculum, design competency, a distributed education process, partnerships with global technology companies such as Microsoft, Adobe, EMC, Intel, Cisco, Sun Microsystems, its vast network of education centres are some of the attributes that make us the preferred choice of students and employers.

**What role does NIIT play in the ITeS sector?**

The BPO sector has provided estimated direct employment to 704,000 professionals in 2007-08 and is projected to generate 1.4 million jobs by 2010. Top IT-BPOs are investing as much as 4-6 per cent of their annual revenues on training and skill enhancement, which is quite high by most industry standards.

The basic skills required for employment in this sector include good communication skills i.e. oral and written communication, logical reasoning and basic analytical skills, and an elementary working knowledge of computers. NIIT offers training programmes to enhance English language communication skills, other soft skills, and personality development skills to enable professionals to work in a global environment.

**What are the most lucrative job profiles in IT at present?**

The Indian IT sector continues to be a lucrative career destination for the youth. In addition to software development, other areas such as Infrastructure Management and New Age Web, Mobile and Interactive Media space are emerging as the next wave in IT. These sectors will open up tremendous job opportunities for professionals.

A recent IDC survey has cautioned the industry about a possible shortfall of nearly one lakh skilled professionals in the Infrastructure Management space, as against the need for 3,75,000 skilled professionals by 2009. Additionally, there is a requirement for 3,00,000 digital media professionals in the next one year. ■

## Business Practices for Customer Responsiveness: Recognising corporate and individual excellence



**GANAPATHY SUBRAMANIAM,  
CEO**

### **COSMIC CIRCUITS**

Cosmic Circuits, which operates in the Analog Semiconductor IP Business, has come up with a competitive matrix that provides insights on its current competitors and their future product roadmap. The practice allows Cosmic to clearly understand the 'key cares' of its customers, prioritise the same and set goals for its solutions—ensuring that they are at least 30% better than what the competition can provide in the same period. Cosmic then brainstorms to see what it can do to accomplish these goals and undertakes a risk analysis to identify the challenges ahead.



**NARAISH RAZDAN, HEAD,  
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**

### **SAMSUNG INDIA**

Samsung India Electronics has created a unique way of supporting pre-sales and post sales service queries from its customers. They can just call up a centralised contact centre that boasts of skilled product specialists and get a speedy resolution to their complaints. The process begins when a customer dials in at the high visibility Samsung toll-free number, and gets connected to a product specialist (dealing with the relevant product). After understanding the customer's problem, the technician provides easy-to-follow, basic trouble shooting instructions and ensures that the problem is solved immediately.

THE AVAYA GLOBALCONNECT KNOWLEDGE PORTAL DEDICATED TO BUSINESS PRACTICES FOR CUSTOMER RESPONSIVENESS (CR) PROVES BEYOND DOUBT THAT CORPORATE INDIA IS EMBRACING BUSINESS PRACTICES THAT HAVE A DIRECT BEARING ON CR. PROFILED HERE ARE SIX UNIQUE BUSINESS PRACTICES THAT HAVE ENABLED COMPANIES TO RAISE THE BAR OF CR WITHIN THEIR REALMS.

**"AS MORE INDIAN** businesses expand their presence nationally and internationally, their ability to respond to evolving customer needs in a consistent way will determine their success in times to come. How does an organisation deliver this high level of customer responsiveness in every customer interaction? I firmly believe that organisa-



**NIRU MEHTA**  
Managing director and  
vice-chairman, Avaya  
GlobalConnect

tions achieve this through sound business practices that are effectively deployed and practised by all employees in the process. No book, no white paper, no amount of soul searching can replace the wisdom shared in these business practices as they represent what really works in the societies and business environment we live in."



**G RAGHAVAN, PRESIDENT,  
INDIVIDUAL LEARNING  
SOLUTIONS**

### **NIIT LTD**

Today, prospects can reach NIIT through Voice (Contact Centre), Web (e-mail and Query service) and mobility. A customer can contact NIIT through its toll-free numbers for information on new products or campaigns. Here, based on the customer's interest, profile and convenience, he/she is directed to the closest NIIT centre. He/she is engaged for almost 45 minutes, following which he/she is also sent packets of information on a mobile device as an alert or an e-mailer.



**ARVIND SONMALE,  
MD & CEO**

### **GLOBAL TRADE FINANCE LTD**

Any SSI unit in India can now ease the pain points thanks to Global Trade Finance's 'Sanction your Own Export Loans' process. The applications can be accessed online from any location by logging on to [www.gtfindia.com](http://www.gtfindia.com). Using an easy-to-fill application form, an SSI unit can avail of several benefits including credit protection with automatic claims payment in case of default. It can undertake collections and invoice follow-ups using the invoice sales ledger maintenance functionality.



**PRANAV PRASHAD, HEAD,  
RURAL & AGRICULTURE  
BUSINESS GROUP**

### **ICICI LOMBARD**

ICICI Bank has introduced a business practice that aims to help farmers. It plugs the loopholes and constraints existing in conventional crop insurance products, which typically result in delays and subjectivity in claim settlement and result in liquidity crunches for farmers for their next crop cycle. ICICI Lombard, in collaboration with the World Bank, has pioneered an index-based weather insurance product to cover weather related risks. It enables farmers to avail of claims assessment based on objective data from the Meteorological department.



**SARIKA NAIK, HEAD,  
CUSTOMER ADVOCACY**

### **WIPRO INFOTECH**

Wipro Infotech has set up a dedicated team called Customer Advocacy (CA) with the objective of resolving customer concerns that go beyond regular service delivery. Fanatical customer advocates within the team make efforts to ensure immediate problem resolution. The process is documented in a robust application called 'Pitstop,' which helps enhance the CSAT levels. The Pitstop application to document escalations received by CA helps log and track these escalations until closure, within timelines.

# Anand launches NIIT Mind Champions' Academy



Chess players interacting with Viswanathan Anand via video conferencing at NIIT, Sector 34, Chandigarh, on Friday. HT PHOTO

## **HT Live Correspondent Chandigarh, May 9**

IT WAS a day budding chess players of the tricity will remember for years to come. They got vital tips on the finer nuances of the game from none other than reigning world champion Viswanathan Anand.

Anand flagged off 'NIIT Mind Champions Academy (MCA) 2008-09 Series' and spoke to young chess players via videoconference. Nearly 300 school children from 12 different cities across the country participated in the live tutorial by Anand.

Talking to the students, Anand said, "Chess is a unique sport that helps

build mind champions. It touches young people in many ways, enabling them to improve their concentration and help them accelerate their success in academics."

10 players from Chandigarh participated in the interaction and made the most of the opportunity by asking questions and listening to the tips given by the 38-year-old chess World Champion. Responding to a question asked by Amandeep, a Xth standard student of DC Model School, Panchkula, on improving rating, Anand said, "One should not bother about rating at the beginners level. Try to practise as much as possible and play with stronger opponents. It helps in getting

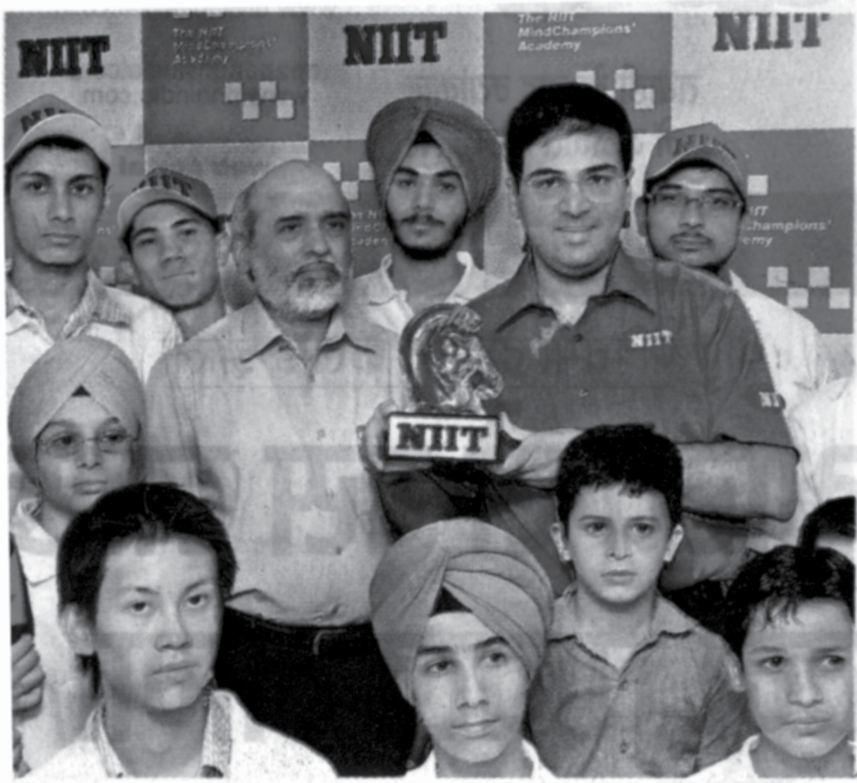
better results later on."

Pointing out the secret of his success, Anand said, "Six months after my mother taught me to play chess, I joined a chess academy. From then onwards, I have been devoting long hours in reading chess books, using computers to find the new things happening in the world of chess and following games of great players besides trying to strengthen my basics. I also make it an effort to come up with new strategies and ideas, which add variety to my game." Those attended the session include, Agam, Nitesh, Rajat, Gaurav, Viman Sharma, Bhavay Singla, Amandeep (DC Model School, Panchkula), Ankit Jain, Karan Bansal, Deepak Joshi (Student's Home).

Dainik Bhaskar  
New Delhi  
May 11, 2008

चैम्पियंस  
के लिए...

नई दिल्ली में शनिवार को शतरंज के बादशाह विश्वनाथन आनंद एनआईआईटी माइंड  
चैम्पियंस ट्राफी प्रदर्शित करते हुए—यूनआई



The Hindu  
New Delhi  
May 10, 2008

*A date with Viswanathan Anand*



**MOMENT OF PRIDE:** World Chess Champion Viswanathan Anand interacting with children at the NIIT Mind Champions Academy in New Delhi on Friday.  
- PHOTO: ANU PUSHKARNA

# Anand's tips make them happy

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chandigarh:** Promising chess players of the Tricity couldn't have asked for more. After all, players with big dreams seldom get the chance to interact with someone whom they idolise. And that's exactly what happened on Friday when they got vital tips on the finer nuances of the game from none other than reigning world champion Viswanathan Anand. That too just a day after Anand became the first non-Russian and non-Soviet Union player to win the Chess Oscar award for a record five times. After flagging off the 'NIIT MindChampions Academy (MCA) 2008-09 Series', Anand spoke to the future chess stars through videoconference. Nearly 300 schoolchildren from 12 cities across India participated in the live tutorial by Anand.

Addressing the students, he said, "Chess is a unique sport that helps build Mind Champions. It touches young people in many ways, enabling them to improve their concentration and help them accelerate their success in academics. NIIT MindChampions Academy is an initiative to provide a platform to young minds to get initiated into the Game of Chess."

The Chandigarh chapter saw 10 players, with their eyes glued to their monitors at, listening to the fundamental information given by the 38-year-old chess legend.



Students listen to World Champion Viswanathan Anand giving tips through videoconference with rapt attention

After the initial session, the stage was made open for the students who threw several questions at Anand, which he answered in detail with a smiling face, as if enjoying the variety of queries hurled at him by 300-odd young chess players from different parts of the country.

Replying to a question asked by Amandeep, a Xth standard student of DC Model School, Panchkula, on improving rating, Anand said, "Rating is an useful guide, but when you

are at the beginner's level, don't get caught up with it. Try to compete with players stronger than you; such matches will challenge you to think and add variety to your game. If you do well, ratings will automatically go up."

When asked what made him best in the business, Anand remarked, "Six months after my mother taught me to play chess, I joined a chess academy. From then onwards, I have been devoting long hours in

reading chess books, using computers to find the new things happening in the world of chess and following games of great players besides trying to strengthen my basics. I also make it an effort to come up with new strategies and ideas, which add variety to my game."

In its sixth year, The NIIT MindChampions Academy will mentor students on chess and organize inter-school, district, state, zonal and national-level events.

In the past years, the zonal and national winners have been felicitated by the Viswanathan Anand, who also mentors and motivates the young, promising talents of the game.

Those attended the session include, Agam Vohra, Nitesh Arora, Rajat Chawla, Gaurav Mungal (Joseph School, Rajpura), Viman Sharma, Bhavay Singla, Amandeep (DC Model School, Panchkula), Ankit Jain, Karan Bansal, Deepak Joshi (Student's Home).

Balish Ahuja

# It will only be Anand versus Kramnik in World Championship : Anand

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

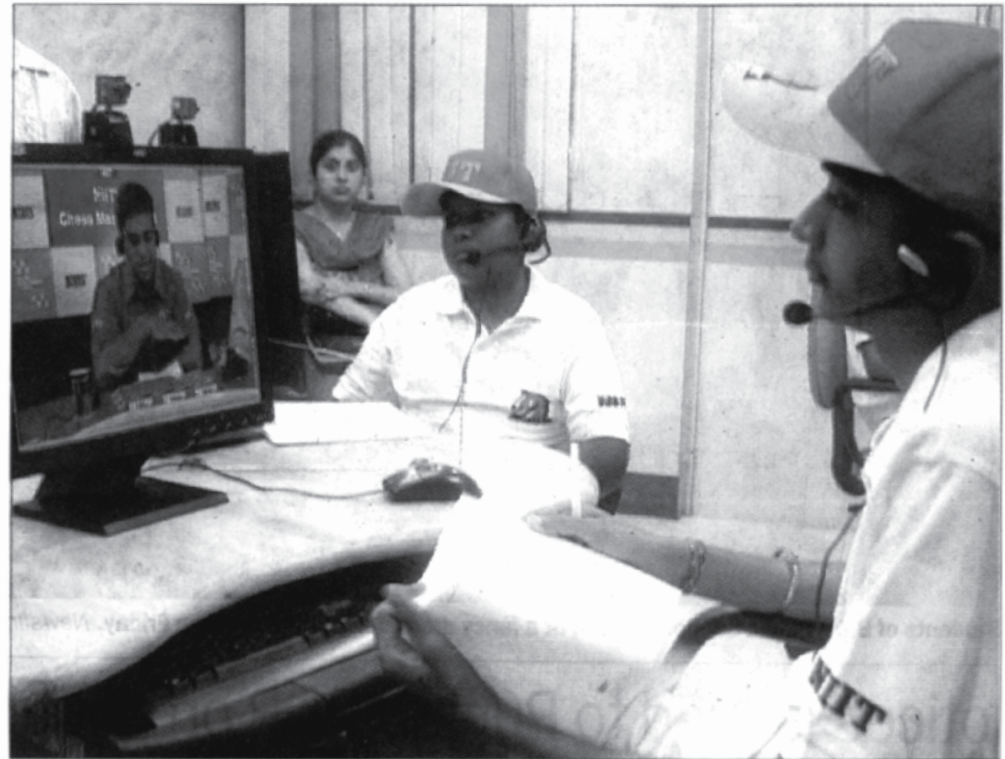
CHANDIGARH, MAY 9

"So far it is only Anand versus Kramnik. You have to forget that you are a World Champion and it's (the match) not between the World Champions versus a challenger," said Viswanathan Anand while commenting on his much awaited clash against the Russian Grandmaster as Anand interacted with some of the media persons through video conference from New Delhi during the nation wide launch of 'NIIT Mind-champions Academy 2008-09 series'.

The world number one who became the world champion in Mexico regained the world champion title after a gap of seven years and will be de-fending his crown against Vladimir Kramnik in October later this year. "I am not feeling the pressure of the competition to be played in match-play format in Bonn, Germany and I am working hard to defend the title against Kramnik," said Anand who on Wednesday was awarded the Chess Oscar for the fifth time.

"There was a cold shower when I lost my first game in the Wijk Aan Zee and then I drew some 5-6 games after a gap of couple of months. So it is very important to have memories and experience and the feel of the tension of the big chess events. It keeps one match fit," said Anand while talking about his time after becoming the world champion. Anand also ruled out any possibility of having any advantage against second-ranked Vladimir Kramnik in the World Championship.

"So far it is only Anand versus Kramnik. You have to forget that you



**Students at NIIT talk with Vishwanathan Anand, world champion via video conference on Saturday.**

are a World Champion and it's (the match) not between the World Champions versus a challenger," he said. Anand, who has been awarded the chess Oscar for the fifth time, also said the honour is a nice reminder of the year which was spent "beautifully".

"It's a bit delayed feeling because you get it a bit later than other recognitions. I didn't dwell much on it but it is a good feeling to remember the

beautiful year which is already over six months ago," said Anand, who had a spectacular 2007 becoming the undisputed World Champion, the world number one besides reclaiming the ELO 2800 mark. Anand had also received the Chess Oscar award in 1997, 1998, 2003 and 2004. The award is given to the best chess player every year and the winner is decided by a poll of chess experts, including Grandmasters, across the world. It is

coordinated by the Russian chess magazine 64.

Anand also disclosed how he had almost given up on becoming world number one last year. "For a moment I had given up on reaching number one last year. I had to be 30 points ahead of Veselin Topalov of Bulgaria which not only meant I had to earn but that he had to lose. There was a difference of 5 to 35 points," he said on regaining the top spot.

# विश्व चैंपियनशिप का प्रेशर अभी से क्यों लूं

संजीव गर्ग नई दिल्ली

वर्ष 2007 आनंद के लिए सपनों जैसा था। जिस भी टूर्नामेंट में उन्होंने हिस्सा लिया चैंपियन बनते गए। विश्व चैंपियन भी बने। नम्बर एक का ताज भी उन्हें मिला। उनकी यह उपलब्धियां उन्हें फिर से शतरंज ऑस्कर चुनने के लिए काफी थीं। और यह हुआ भी। कल ही उन्हें पांचवीं बार शतरंज ऑस्कर चुना गया। इस बारे में आनंद ने कहा, 'इस ऑस्कर ने मुझे 2007 के सुनहरे सफर को याद दिला दिया। हां, इस बात को अब छह महीने हो गए। ये देर से मिली खुशी जैसा है।'

विश्वनाथन आनंद एनआईआईटी माइंड चैंपियंस अकादमी के 2008-09 सीरीज में हिस्सा ले रहे थे। इस मौके पर आनंद देशभर में एनआईआईटी के 12 सेंटर्स पर मौजूद लगभग 300 बच्चों से वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए रूबरू हुए। एक बच्चे के सवाल पर आनंद ने कहा, 'महात्मा गांधी और नेल्सन मंडेला मेरे आदर्श हैं। इन दोनों महान हस्तियों ने दुनिया को रास्ता दिखाया है। हमे भी



विश्वनाथन आनंद एनआईआईटी माइंड चैंपियंस अकादमी के बच्चों को एक साथ 16 सेंटर पर वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग से शतरंज सिखाते हुए

इनसे सीख लेनी चाहिए' इस साल आनंद को व्लादिमिर क्रैमनिक के साथ विश्व चैंपियनशिप मैच खेलना है। इस बारे में आनंद ने कहा, 'विश्व चैंपियनशिप का टेंशन, इमोशंस और क्या रिजल्ट होगा, ये सारी बातें स्टॉक मार्केट में होने वाले उतार-चढ़ाव जैसा फील कराती हैं।'

यह विश्व चैंपियनशिप अक्टूबर में बॉन, जर्मनी में खेली जा रही है।

मैचप्ले फॉरमेट में खेलने में क्या कुछ अलग प्रेशर होता है, पूछने पर आनंद कहते हैं, 'नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है। मैं कोई प्रेशर फील नहीं कर रहा। हां, इसकी तैयारियां मैंने जरूर शुरू कर दी हैं। लेकिन इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि अभी से अपने ऊपर प्रेशर बना लूं। अभी मुझे जून में लियोन, अगस्त में मेंज, सितम्बर में बिलबाओ में खेलना है।' एक टूर्नामेंट में और मैचप्ले में

आनंद बोले...

- ऑस्कर ने 2007 की यादें ताजा कर दीं
- महात्मा गांधी और नेल्सन मंडेला हैं मेरे आदर्श
- आज पद्मविभूषण से सम्मानित होंगे शतरंज किंग
- माधुरी दीक्षित हैं पसंदीदा हीरोइन

खेलने में क्या फर्क है, पूछने पर आनंद ने कहा, 'इस लेवल पर हमें हर फॉरमेट में खेलने की आदत पड़ जाती है। इससे कुछ फर्क नहीं पड़ता कि आप किस फॉरमेट में खेल रहे हैं। मुझे मैचप्ले फॉरमेट में खेलने का भी काफी अनुभव है।'

शतरंज के बादशाह विश्वनाथन आनंद को शनिवार को पद्मविभूषण से सम्मानित किया जाएगा। इस अवसर पर उनकी सबसे पसंदीदा हीरोइन माधुरी दीक्षित भी राष्ट्रपति भवन में मौजूद होंगी। माधुरी को पद्मश्री से सम्मानित किया जाएगा।

Amar Ujala  
New Delhi  
May 10, 2008

## आनंद को ऑस्कर

► विश्वनाथन आनंद ने इस साल समेत पांच बार (1997, 1998, 2003, 2004 और 2007) चेस ऑस्कर जीता। कास्परोव ने 11 बार और अनातोली कार्पोव नौ बार जीता। पांच गैर-रूसी खिलाड़ी हैं जिन्हें यह सम्मान हासिल हुआ है। इनमें सबसे ज्यादा बार यह अवार्ड आनंद को मिला

► चेस ऑस्कर देने की परंपरा 1967 में शुरू हुई थी, जब स्पेन के पाल्मा डी मालोरका में इंटरनेशनल टूर्नामेंट कवर कर रहे पत्रकारों ने बेंट लार्सन को उस साल का सर्वश्रेष्ठ ग्रैंड मास्टर घोषित किया था

► फिर इंटरनेशनल एसोसिएशन ऑफ चेस प्रेस ने ऑस्कर की घोषणा कर दी और अवार्ड 1988 तक दिया जाता रहा। लेकिन इसके बाद यह रोक दिया गया। रूसी शतरंज पत्रिका '64' ने 1995 में दोबारा शुरुआत की और यह अवार्ड गैरी कास्परोव को प्रदान किया गया



विजेंता : शुक्रवार को नई दिल्ली में प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस के दौरान विश्वनाथन आनंद।

यह थोड़ी देर से मिलने वाले सुकून जैसा है, क्योंकि 2007 को बीते काफी समय चुका है। मैं इस पर कुछ नहीं कर सकता हूं, लेकिन यह अवार्ड शानदार रहे साल की बढ़िया यादगार है। तनाव और परिणाम की अनिश्चितता क्रैमनिक के साथ अक्टूबर में होने वाली वर्ल्ड चैंपियनशिप को स्टॉक मार्केट जैसा बनाती हैं

-विश्वनाथन आनंद



# The knight made the kids' day

Viswanathan Anand says he understands the responsibility of being a role model and enjoys promoting chess among children

Parishmita Gogoi  
New Delhi, May 9

AS HE holds forth on the mechanics of chess, Viswanathan Anand's brow furrows in concentration, but at the mention of children, the wrinkles instantly shift to surround the smile that bursts onto his face.

In his fifth year with the NIIT Mind Champions Academy, a brainchild of Anand and NIIT in order to promote chess at school level, the champion is a happy with the overall turnout of children across India.

"We had set some target and I am glad that we were able to meet it," Anand said. "We now have 1,76,130 students across India learning chess through this programme."

These students are not from the metros, rather from far flung areas like Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Tripura. "Whenever Anand comes to India, he makes it a point to visit these places so that children are inspired to take up chess," says P.Rajendran, Director & Chief operating officer of NIIT.

Anand's wife Aruna reminisced about their visit to Guwahati in Assam as a part of the Mind Champions Academy.

"We were surprised at the enthusiasm of children for chess," she said. "Now there are around 900 schools in Assam where



VIJAY KUMAR JOSHI/PTI

World chess champion Viswanathan Anand interacts with students after flagging off the Mind Champions Academy 2008-09 Series in association with his sponsors in New Delhi on Friday.

children are learning the game. It's incredible."

No one could better understand the concept of meeting an idol and the inspiration that one draws from him better than Vishy Anand.

"When I was a child and my mother and myself were in Philippines for a tournament, she called up the great grandmaster Eugene Torres so that I could speak to him. We couldn't speak to him, but we managed to talk to his brother instead," Anand said, recalling one of his memorable childhood moments.

Anand can also not forget his

meeting with Mikhael Tal, the great chess player and writer.

"I drew a lot of inspiration by meeting these great players and I can understand the importance and responsibilities of being an idol," he said. "So, whenever I get an opportunity to meet children I make the best use of it."

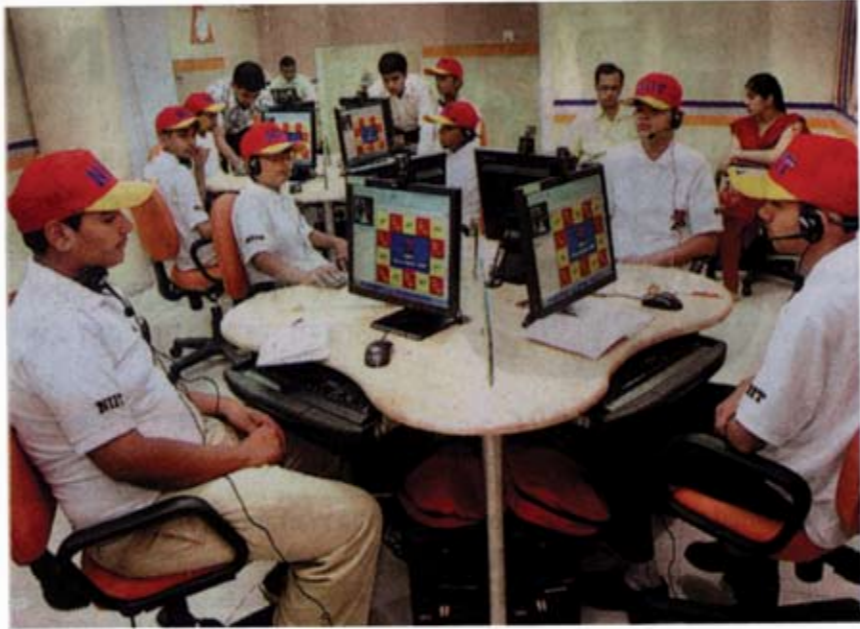
Indeed, he beams at the mention of children like Sushant, who topped the Gujarat board examination and is a student of the Mind Champions Academy.

"This is another example that shows chess helps in academics too," Anand said.

# आनंद ने दिए बच्चों को टिप्स

चंडीगढ़. चैस एक यूनिक गेम है जो लोगों के दिमाग को मजबूत बनाता है। यह हमारी मानसिक विकास में भी काफी सहायक साबित होता है। वर्ल्ड चैस चैंपियन भारत के विश्वनाथन आनंद ने एनआईआईटी (निट) माइंड चैस अकादमी के उद्घाटन पर यह बात स्टूडेंट्स से कही। निट के ब्रांड अंबेसडर आनंद ने दिल्ली से वीडियो कान्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए चंडीगढ़ के सेक्टर-34 निट सेंटर के अलावा अहमदाबाद, बंगलौर, चेन्नई, हैदराबाद, कोलकाता, मुंबई, नागपुर, दिल्ली, पूणे और भुवनेश्वर में 300 स्टूडेंट से बातचीत की। आनंद ने चैस के टिप्स देते हुए कहा कि इस खेल से एकाग्रता बढ़ती है जो हमें आगे चल कर सफलता दिलाती है। उन्होंने कहा कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा युवाओं को चैस खेलना चाहिए। 2002-03 में शुरू एनआईआईटी (निट) द्वारा शुरू हुई माइंड चैस अकादमी से 6180 क्लब जुड़े हुए हैं जिनमें एक लाख 75 हजार स्टूडेंट शामिल हैं। निट स्टूडेंट को अकादमी में ऑन लाइन और ऑफ लाइन फॉर्मेट चैस खेलने का अवसर देती है। स्टूडेंट अपनी कंप्यूटर की पढ़ाई के बाद चैस खेलने का आनंद ले सकते हैं। इसके अलावा वे विश्वनाथन आनंद से चैस के टिप्स भी ले सकते हैं।

निट सेंटर में दिल्ली से वीडियो कान्फ्रेंसिंग से की बात



सेक्टर-34 स्थित एनआईआईटी कंप्यूटर सेंटर में विश्वनाथन आनंद से वीडियो कान्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए बात करते स्टूडेंट। आनंद ने शुक्रवार माइंड चैस अकादमी का प्लेग आफ किया।

Aaj  
Varanshi  
May 11, 2008



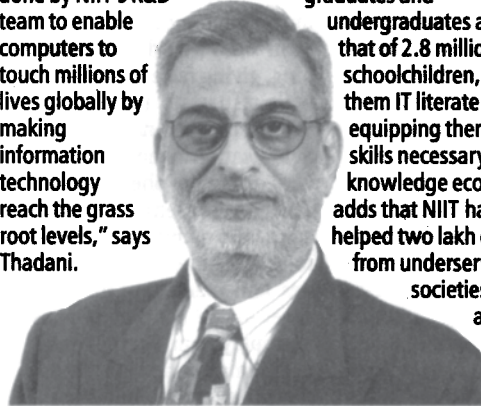
नयी दिल्ली में निट माइंड चैम्पियन एकेडमी ट्राफी के विगोचन के अवसर पर विश्व शतरंज चैम्पियन विश्वनाथन आनंद (दायाँ)।

## NIIT wins Digital Opportunity Award

**V**IJAY K Thadani, CEO, NIIT, is a happy man these days. Hole-in-the-Wall Education Ltd (HiWEL), an initiative of NIIT, has been conferred the coveted 'Digital Opportunity Award' by the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA). The award is in appreciation of NIIT's efforts in spreading computer literacy and improving the quality of education at grassroots.

"We at NIIT believe that winning an award is not only a recognition of the past but an expectation for the future.

It is an acknowledgement of the ground-breaking work done by NIIT's R&D team to enable computers to touch millions of lives globally by making information technology reach the grass root levels," says Thadani.



Today, says Thadani, "NIIT is touching the lives of 4,85,000 graduates and undergraduates along with that of 2.8 million schoolchildren, making them IT literate and equipping them with skills necessary for the knowledge economy." He adds that NIIT has also helped two lakh children from underserved societies in rural areas and urban slums, through

their 150 Minimally Invasive Education kiosks.

NIIT's HiWEL is active in Asia (India and Cambodia) and Africa (Mozambique, Zambia, Uganda, Botswana, Nigeria and Rwanda) where they are working with the governments to help reduce school dropout rate and enhance the level of education system.

An alumnus of IIT Delhi, Thadani is one of the co-founders of NIIT, an organisation he established along with Rajendra S Pawar in 1981.

The Pioneer  
Lucknow  
May 13, 2008

## NIIT willing to set up teacher training institute

**E**ndorsing NCERT Director Krishna Kumar's proposal for setting up a 'world-class' training centre for teachers, IT educational services provider NIIT said it is willing to set up one such institution in India within the next 18-24 months.

National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) Director Krishna Kumar today said the country needs a 'world-class' teacher training institute, for which he has been pursuing the private sector for long, but without any fructification.

"I am requesting the private sector companies for a long time to set up a world-class teacher training institute, for which an investment of Rs 60-100 crore is required.

But unfortunately, nobody has come forward and only asked - what would be the end benefit," Kumar said at the CII national Summit on corporate social responsibility.

Supporting Kumar's proposal, NIIT Chief Executive Officer Vijay K Thadani said: "If you really think that such an institute is very important, then it is possible. You will see a world-class institute from NIIT in the next 18-

24 months.

The only thing is that the institute would require a greater amount of autonomy in its functioning," he added.

When asked about the kind of investment the company would pump in to set up the institute, Thadani said: "We have not decided anything so far. But I do not think, it will need such huge amount (Rs 60-100 crore)."

Criticising private sector's role in imparting educational services in the country, Kumar said: "As this sector (education) does not give immediate benefit, there has been a constant negligence and lack of vision in the private sector.

Only state machineries work with a long term vision.' PTI

The Hindustan Times  
New Delhi  
May 28, 2008



## G. RAGHAVAN

**President-Individual Learning Solutions, NIIT**

NIIT pioneered IT training in India, 26 years ago. It is not only the largest IT trainer in India and Asia, but is rated amongst the top in the world. Our curriculum design competency, distributed education process management and ability to partner with world's leading technology companies such as Microsoft, Intel, Sun Microsystems, Cisco, and EMC make NIIT the preferred choice of students and employers. NIIT has an enviable education network.

Dataquest  
National  
May 31, 2008

## Pawar Bags 'Entrepreneur of the Year' Award

Rajendra S Pawar, chairman, NIIT Technologies, has been conferred the Geospatial Entrepreneur of the Year Award by Geospatial Today publication. The award was handed over by Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Kapil Sibal. The honor recognizes and rewards the companies and the people who have achieved the highest standards in the geospatial industry and leading the industry.

The Times of India  
New Delhi  
May 28, 2008

## NIIT's centre will attract talent: Nath

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Union commerce and industry minister Kamal Nath on Tuesday laid the foundation of NIIT's second district learning centre (DLC) at Chhindwara, in line with the company's commitment to harness talent pool from semi-urban India.

"I am happy to see the industry come forward for nurturing the talent base of rural India. NIIT's model DLC in Chhindwara will go a long way in inducting our youth into the mainstream industry," the minister said. Senior representatives of infotech majors Intel, Cisco, IBM, Infosys, TCS and Wipro were present to put the Chhindwara region on the IT map. "Success of NIIT DLC augurs well for the growth of Chhindwara's youth. This encourages our commitment to harness the hidden talent pool available in semi-urban India," said NIIT chairman Rajendra S Pawar.

Intel also announced the launch of its 'IT Entrepreneurship Lab', 'Intel Teach Programme', and 'World Ahead Programme' at Chhindwara. "Under the Intel World Ahead Programme, we are committed to work with governments and industry across the globe to facilitate better health and education through technology. We are pleased to announce Chhindwara as our fourth World Ahead community in India, along with NIIT, a key World Ahead alliance partner," said R Sivakumar, MD (sales and marketing), Intel, South Asia.



## स्कूली टूर्नामेंट को बढ़ावा मिले

नई दिल्ली (वार्ता)। विश्व शतरंज चैंपियन विश्वनाथन आनंद ने कहा है कि अगर शतरंज को लोकप्रिय बनाना है तो इसे स्कूल स्तर पर बढ़ावा देना होगा। आनंद यहां एनआईआईटी माइंड चैंपियंस अकादमी 2008-09 शृंखला के लांच के अवसर पर संवाददाताओं से बात कर रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि अगर भारत में शतरंज का विकास करना है तथा इसे लोकप्रिय बनाना है तो इसकी पहुंच देशभर के स्कूलों में करनी होगी। बच्चों में इस खेल के प्रति रूचि विकसित करनी होगी तभी यह खेल आसमान की बुलंदियों को छू सकेगा। शतरंज को क्रिकेट जितनी लोकप्रियता नहीं मिलने के सवाल पर आनंद ने कहा कि हां ए सही है लेकिन इसका धीरे धीरे विकास हो रहा है और ज्यादा चिंतित होने की बात नहीं है।

## Play to concentrate



### Team Viva

**E**ncouraging the participants on the flag off ceremony of NIIT Mind Champion's Academy 2008-09 series, children came to know about the positive effects of the sports through World Champion Vishwanathan Anand. The series was simultaneously released from New Delhi across 12 cities that included Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune and Vishakhapatnam. "Chess is a unique sport that helps build 'Mind Champions'. It touches

young people in many ways, enabling them to improve their concentration and help them accelerate their success in academics. This is a platform to encourage the sports among children," said Anand.

Nearly 300 schools participated in the live tutorial by Anand.

The children enjoyed while getting tips from Anand.

The NIIT Mind Champions Academy, will mentor students on Chess and organise inter-school, district, state, zonal and national level Chess events.

RIGHT MOVE

# Winning Oscaricing on the cake: Vishy

## India's growth impressive, says World chess champion Viswanathan Anand

Express News Service  
Chennai, May 9

INDIA is a virtual non-entity when it comes to the Oscars. But it is an altogether different picture in Chess Oscars, where a soft-spoken, unassuming Indian by name Viswanathan Anand walks away with all the laurels. And the whole world nods in unanimous agreement. For the fifth time in his career the 39-year-old Chennaiite surmounted this peak, the highest token of recognition for a chess player.

Having also bagged the bronze statuette titled the 'Fascinated Wanderer' in 1997, 1998, 2003, and 2004, Anand reckons the accolade as an icing in the cake. Not without reason though, for 2007 was an Augustan year for Anand, who won the World title, Chess Classic at Mainz for 10th time, became World No.1 in ratings and crossed 2800.

All the same fresh challenges await Anand in 2008, as he has to defend his title in Bonn. But Anand is braced up for the forthcoming season. "It (2007) was one of my best years. Things happened unexpectedly. Maybe, this year will get better. I will give my best and enjoy my game. Hopefully, I will have many more years at the top. I'm confident, but the rivals will be tough," averred Anand, who rates his penultimate-round draw against Alexander Grischuk from a losing position in the World Championship at Mexico as his sweetest.

With online chess getting more popular, it would hardly be surprising if chess tournaments too get online. "Online chess is a big boon for chess and it isn't inconceivable that even chess tournaments would go online. But I don't want that to happen in chess because body language is important in chess. Emotions are important as you can sense if the player is edgy or not and so you can plan your moves accordingly," remarked Anand.

On the sidelines, Anand is happy with the meteoric rate at which India is producing chess players. "The pace of the growth has been impressive. There is depth and the stats are getting better as there are more players in the top 100 and many are getting norms with better speed. We have established, now we have to consolidate," he pointed out.

Though chess is essentially a mind-game, Anand specifies the significance of physical fitness. "It's important for a chess player to be physically fit. Without good health, nothing works. I regularly spend two hours either in the gym or in the swimming pool," said Anand.

On to his lighter side, Anand was disappointed that Real Madrid drubbed Barcelona. "The last few games had not been good for them. Maybe next year they can put on a better show and bounce back in the Champions League as well. Frank Rijkaard is a sensible coach and Ronaldinho will regain his form sooner than later," said Anand.

All the same, practice hours have robbed Anand of IPL action. "It's fun. But I haven't quite followed it as I had been working quite hard on my game in the evenings. Hopefully, I can catch more IPL action in the coming days," he said.

Settled presently in Madrid, Anand said he would repatriate soon. "We would eventually come back to India. Even now I spend two months every year in the country," said Anand.



A RADHAKRISHNA

**CHAMP'S CHAT:** Anand (on the screen) talks with students in Hyderabad through a video conference from Delhi

### Anand's unique feat

World champion and World No.1 Viswanathan Anand of India has won the Chess Oscar (best chess player award) for the year 2007. Vladimir Kramnik of Russia came second and Gata Kamsky of the US third.

It was Anand's fifth Oscar, which is more than any other non-Russian player. The late Bobby Fischer of the US has won it three times, while Bent Larsen has won it once, when it was introduced in 1967.

Anand had earlier won the Chess Oscar in 1997, 1998, 2003 and 2004. Anand had a fantastic 2007, winning Linares for the second time, Leon crown for the seventh time, winning Mainz Chess Classic for the 10th time and became the Unbeaten World chess champion in Mexico. He also became World No.1 for the first time in the rating list in April 2007.

### What is Chess Oscar?

The Chess Oscar was founded in 1967 by Jorge Paig. The first winner was Bent Larsen in 1967 and the award ceremony was held in Madrid. In 1988 Paig died and the award was not given until 1995. The Chess Oscar's have a lot of prestige in the chess world. Many great chess luminaries like Bobby Fischer, Bent Larsen, Boris Spassky, Anatoly Karpov, Garry Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand have received the award. The Oscars are held by the prestigious Chess magazine '94.

## IGNITING THE SPARK

Express News Service  
Chennai, May 9:

World chess champion Viswanathan Anand flagged-off the nation-wide launch of the NIIT Mind Champions Academy, simultaneously held in Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Pune and Visakhapatnam on Friday. Anand also unveiled the horse-head shaped mascot and partook in a technology-driven workshop with close to 300 students.

Outlining the focus of the campaign, the chess ace opined that the focus of the campaign is to enhance a better reach for the game in India.

"The end is not to create World champions, but to introduce chess to as many children as possible and create an interest for the game. Playing chess has to come in natural way. Then it is more likely that children would play this game. It should spread to all parts of the country, even to places where the game doesn't have a rich tradition like the Northeast. Our aim is to get a large number of children playing chess," stated Anand.

Anand said: "Chess is a unique sport that helps build mind champions. It touches young people in many ways, enabling them improve their concentration, and help them accelerate their success in academics."

The NIIT Mind Champions Academy is our initiative to provide a platform for young minds to get initiated into chess," he said. Established in 2002-03, the academy, has already nurtured 6,180 clubs and 5,282 schools with 1,76,130 members.

## 2007 was great for me: Anand

PNS | New Delhi

**W**orld champion Viswanathan Anand, who has been awarded the chess Oscar for the fifth time, said the honour is a nice reminder of the year 2007.

"It is actually icing on the cake," said Anand who had a spectacular 2007 becoming the undisputed World Champion. He had received the Chess Oscar award in 1997, 1998, 2003 and 2004.

"It's a bit delayed feeling because you get it a bit later than other recognitions. I didn't dwell much on it but it is a good feeling to remember the beautiful year which is already over six months ago," Anand said during the launch of 'NIIT Mindchampions Academy 2008-09 series'.

Anand said despite being top-placed he does not have any advantage against the second-ranked Kramnik in the World championships.

"So far it is only Anand versus Kramnik. You have to forget that you are a World Champion and it's (the match) not between the World Champions versus a challenger," he stated.

The 38-year-old Anand said he has already started his preparations for the tournament and has planned a



light schedule till October.

"There is no point keeping up the intensity for four months. Although I've already started preparing hard for Bonn, I have also kept some breaks in my schedule. I will play Leon in June, Mainz in August, Bilbao in September and then Bonn in October," he added.

On the possibility of World Championships being played online in the age of internet in near future, Anand said, "if there are so many countries it could be done".

But he did not seem comfortable with the idea as he said, "You would be completely cut off from your opponent. Body language also plays a big role in chess as sometimes you can take extra risk when you gauge that your opponent is nowhere"

## Anand gives kids a reason to smile

Parishmita Gogoi  
New Delhi, May 9

AS HE holds forth on the mechanics of chess, Viswanathan Anand's brow furrows in concentration, but at the mention of children, the wrinkles instantly shift to surround the smile that bursts onto his face.

In his fifth year with the NIIT Mind Champions Academy, a brainchild of Anand and NIIT in order to promote chess at school level, the champion is a happy with the overall turnout of children across India. "We had set some target and I am glad that we were able to meet it," Anand said. "We now have 1,76,130 students across India learning chess through this programme."

These students are not from the metro cities, rather from far flung areas like Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Tripura. "Whenever Anand comes to India, he makes it a point to visit these places so that children are inspired to take up chess," says P.Rajendran, Director of NIIT.

Anand's wife Aruna reminisced about their visit to Guwahati in Assam as a part of the Mind Champions Academy. "We were surprised at the enthusiasm of children for chess," she said. "Now there are around 900 schools in Assam where children are learning the game. It's incredible."

No one could better understand the concept of meeting an idol and the inspiration that one draws from him better than Vishy Anand. "When I was a child and my mother and myself were in Philippines for a tournament, she called up the great grandmaster Eugene Torres so that I could speak to him. We couldn't speak to him, but we managed to talk to his brother instead," Anand said, recalling one of his memorable childhood moments.

Anand can also not forget his meeting with Mikhael Tal, the great chess player and writer.

"I drew a lot of inspiration by meeting these great players and I can understand the importance and responsibilities of being an idol," he said. "Therefore, whenever I get an opportunity to meet children I make the best use of it."

# एनएनआईटी का हुआ शुभारंभ



बड़कुही ( एक्सप्रेस )। कांग्रेस शुरु से ही युवा व छात्रों के लिये धितित है। आज युद्धे खुशी है कि जिस कार्यक्रम में आया हूँ उसमें सिर्फ भीड़ नहीं बल्कि वो युवा है जो पढ़ लिखकर अच्छे भारत का निर्माण करेंगे। मेरी कोशिश है कि युवाओं के लिये मैं जितना कर सकूँ उससे अधिक करूँ। लेकिन प्रदेश की भाजपा सरकार इसमें सबसे बड़ी रोड़ा है।

भाजपा के इतने साल के कार्यकाल में सत्ताधीश तो बदले हैं लेकिन प्रदेश की स्थिति नहीं बदली। उक्ताशय के विचार आज यहां एनआईआईटी सेंटर के उदघाटन पर केन्द्रिय उद्योग मंत्री कमलनाथ ने कहे। उन्होंने कहा कि भाजपा सरकार

ने सत्ता पर काबिज होने जितने वादे किये थे उनमें से एक भी पूरे नहीं हुये। प्रदेश मुखिया शिवराजसिंह चौहान सिर्फ वादे करते हैं। उन वादों को पूरा करना भाजपा को नहीं आता। कमलनाथ ने कहा कि आज प्रदेश की स्थिति दयनीय है। ना बिजली है ना सड़के केन्द्र को बदनाम करने में भाजपा सरकार कतई पीछे नहीं हटती।

योजनायें केन्द्र की है लेकिन भाजपा श्रेय लेने की राजनीति कर रही है। कार्यक्रम में बड़ी संख्या में कांग्रेस कार्यकर्ताओं के अलावा युवा और ग्रामीण लोग उपस्थित थे। स्थानीय कांग्रेस नेता पूरे समय कार्यक्रम में उपस्थिति बनाये हुये थे।



## बड़कुही में एनआईआईटी की आधारशिला रखी कमलनाथ ने

छिन्दवाड़ा। जिले के ग्रामीण अंचलों में छिपी प्रतिभाओं को भारत के सम्मुख लाने के भागीरथ प्रयास में जुटे जिले के सांसद व केन्द्रीय मंत्री कमलनाथ ने आज महज आठ माह के अंतराल में अपनी घोषणा के अनुसार बड़कुही में एनआईआईटी के दूसरे लर्निंग सेंटर प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र की आधारशिला रखी। इसके पूर्व श्री नाथ ने विगत 19 अगस्त 2007 को छिन्दवाड़ा में संचालित सेंटर में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त पहले बैच के युवाओं की सफलता ने यह सिद्ध कर दिया है कि जिले के युवाओं में विकास की मुख्यधारा से जुड़ने की अपार संभावनाएं हैं। कमलनाथ के प्रयासों के परिणामस्वरूप जिले के दो स्थानों पर संचालित होने वाली इस संस्था से ग्रामीण भारत में छिपी सैकड़ों प्रतिभाओं को सामने आने का अवसर मिलेगा।

बड़कुही में एनआईआईटी सेंटर की आधारशिला रखे जाने के अवसर पर प्रसन्नता व्यक्त करते हुये श्री नाथ ने कहा कि यह आदर्श प्रशिक्षण केंद्र यहां के युवाओं को उद्योग की मुख्यधारा में शामिल करने में अहम भूमिका निभायेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत मूल गांवों का देश है और ग्रामीण भारत में बदलाव लाने वाले मजबूत और टिकाऊ साधनों की बढ़ती ही हम विश्व की अर्थव्यवस्था में अग्रणी स्थान बना सकते हैं। श्री नाथ ने आशा व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि एनआईआईटी का यह केंद्र अपने शसक्त प्रशिक्षण से छात्रों के सुनहरे भविष्य का निर्माण करेगा। हमारे युवा जो शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के बाद भी रोजगार प्राप्ति की दौड़ में अंतिम सीढ़ी पर फिसल जाते थे उनके भविष्य के निर्माण में यह शिक्षा सहायक होगी तथा भारत सहित विश्व में स्थापित अनेको बड़ी कंपनियों में उन्हें रोजगार प्राप्त होने में सुविधा होगी। बड़कुही पहुंचने पर ब्लॉक कांग्रेस सहित कांग्रेस के अन्य संगठनों व श्रमिक संगठनों ने ढोल धमाल और आतिशबाजी के साथ श्री कमलनाथ का जोरदार स्वागत किया। तीन स्थानों पर क्षेत्रीय नागरिकों व कार्यकर्ताओं ने श्री कमलनाथ को मिठाई से तोला।

अपने पूर्व निर्धारित दौरा कार्यक्रम के अनुसार केन्द्रीय वाणिज्य एवं उद्योगमंत्री व जिले के सांसद कमलनाथ का नियत समय पर छिन्दवाड़ा आगमन हुआ तत्पश्चात वे पहले साँसर विकासखंड के ग्राम मेहराखापा में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित हुये। जी-11 के तत्वाधान में आयोजित इस सभा को संबोधित करते हुये कमलनाथ ने कहा कि केंद्र की कांग्रेसनीत सरकार ने अपने प्रयासों व घोषणाओं के अनुसार देश के किसानों का कर्ज माफ किया है। इसके विपरीत प्रदेश की भाजपा सरकार केंद्र सरकार द्वारा दी जा रही सहायता राशि व योजनाओं को अपना बतारक झूठा श्रेय



छिन्दवाड़ा में एनआईआईटी के एक समारोह में छात्र-छात्राओं से रूबरू होते कमलनाथ।

लेने का प्रयास कर रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि सिर्फ छिन्दवाड़ा जिले में 252 करोड़ रूपयों के किसानों के ऋण माफ किये गये हैं आगामी तीन सप्ताह में किसानों को ऋण माफी की प्रक्रिया पूर्ण होगी। इस अवसर पर जी-11 व कांग्रेस कार्यकर्ताओं ने श्री नाथ से रूबरू होकर बात की तथा अपनी समस्याओं से उन्हें अवगत कराया। कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित होने से पूर्व श्री कमलनाथ ने मेहराखापा स्थित श्री दादा दरबार में उपस्थित होकर प्रार्थना की। कार्यक्रम में आदिवासी समाज के दस धर्म गुरुओं का शाल श्रीफल से सम्मान किया गया। इस अवसर पर प्रदेश के पूर्व पीएचई मंत्री दीपक सक्सेना, जिला कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष श्री गंगाप्रसाद तिवारी, श्री प्रदीप सक्सेना, पूर्व विधायक बिट्टल महाले, अशोक चौधरी, पूनाराम बाबिस्टले, युसूफखान, भागवत महाजन, युवराज जिचकार, मनोहर ठाकुर व विनायक मर्सकोले सहित हजारों की संख्या में कार्यकर्ता व

नागरिकगण उपस्थित हुये।

दमुआ विकासखंड के ग्राम कुकरपानी में आयोजित जनसभा को संबोधित करते हुये केन्द्रीयमंत्री कमलनाथ ने प्रदेश की भाजपा सरकार की नाकामियों को उजागर करते हुए कांग्रेसनीत केंद्र सरकार की विभिन्न जनकल्याणकारी योजनाओं से आमजनों को अवगत करवाया। आगामी तीन सप्ताह में किसानों को ऋण माफी के अलावा आदिवासियों को वन भूमि पर दिये जाने वाले पट्टों की जानकारी देते हुये कहा कि देश के आदिवासियों का कांग्रेस के साथ गहरा और मजबूत रिश्ता है तथा कांग्रेस ने वनों में रहनेवाले आदिवासियों और वननिवासियों की रोजमर्रा की जरूरतों की पूर्ति की हमेशा चिंता की है। कांग्रेस द्वारा आदिवासियों तथा परंपरागत वन निवासियों के लिए वनभूमि के पट्टे दिये जाने के अधिकार से आदिवासियों को सम्मान से जीने का हक मिलेगा।

# Kamalnath opens NIIT's new District Learning Centre

## ■ 1st annual convocation ceremony held

### Agencies

Chhindwara, May 27

Following its commitment to harness talent pool from semi-urban India, NIIT, today announced the setting up of its 2nd District Learning Centre in Chhindwara. Union Minister for Commerce & Industry Kamal Nath laid the foundation stone for NIIT's new District Learning Centre in neighbouring Barkuhi town in Chhindwara district.

The Minister was joined by R Sivakumar, Managing Director, Sales & Marketing, South Asia; Intel; Harish Krishnan, Director, Global Policy & Government Affairs, Cisco India; Rajendra S. Pawar, Chairman, NIIT; Vijay K. Thadani, CEO, NIIT, and other senior representatives from leading IT organizations like IBM, Infosys, TCS, and Wipro, to flag off the 2nd DLC, and address at the 1st Annual Convocation Ceremony at NIIT DLC in Chhindwara. Students passing out of the first batch of NIIT Chhindwara were awarded their certificates by the Minister.

Addressing students and public at Chhindwara, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry Kamal Nath said, "I am happy to see the industry come forward for nurturing the inherent talent base in rural India. NIIT's Model DLC in Chhindwara will go a long way in inducting our youth into the mainstream industry."

Speaking on the occasion, Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman, NIIT, said, "Success of NIIT DLC augurs well for the growth of Chhindwara youth. "This encourages our commitment to harness the hidden talent pool available in semi-urban India", added

### Pawar.

The leader in networking solutions, Cisco, also inaugurated its state-of-the-art networking learning facility inside the NIIT District Learning Centre. Cisco has donated networking equipment for the lab and will provide technological expertise and mentoring services to students at the Centre. NIIT will offer Cisco certification courses to students in Chhindwara, starting June 2008.

The lab is a pilot project by Cisco, using technology as an enabler for rural transformation, in collaboration with the government and industry players. As part of the pilot project to enable Chhindwara's transformation to a connected model district and promote entrepreneurship among the youth in Chhindwara, Cisco is actively mentoring group of students at the NIIT District Learning Centre over the last six months.

Established last year with the objective of fostering talent from Tier 3 (semi-urban) Indian cities to cater to the global talent demand, the NIIT DLC witnessed industry funded intensive training programs in IT and soft skills, being delivered to over 200 students from the deep interiors of Chhindwara district.

Witnessing the encouraging response from the locals, and the demand raised by the industry, NIIT has laid the foundation of another state-of-the-art learning centre in the nearby Barkuhi town.

"NIIT and our technology partners have deployed the most advanced technologies in the DLC to ensure achievement of targeted learning outcomes", said Mr. Vijay K. Thadani, CEO, NIIT.

## NIIT setting up second district learning centre in M.P.

### Our Bureau

New Delhi, May 27

In line with its aim to harness talent pool from semi-urban India, NIIT on Tuesday announced the setting up of its second district learning centre in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh.

The Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr Kamal Nath, laid the foundation stone for the new district learning centre in Barkuhi town in Chhindwara district. The NIIT centre at Barkuhi would provide training programs to students to enhance their IT, communication, professional life skills and business etiquettes, making them ready for employment in IT and non-IT companies. The new centre would leverage technology, have fully-networked classrooms, machine rooms, labs, library, high-bandwidth Internet, amongst others.

Commenting on the development, Mr Rajendra S. Pawar, Chairman of NIIT, said the move underlined the company's intent to harness the hidden talent pool in semi-urban India.

Meanwhile, global chip maker, Intel has announced the launch of its 'IT Entrepreneurship Lab', 'Intel Teach Program', and 'Child Health Monitoring' as part of the Intel World Ahead Program at Chhindwara. In addition, networking major Cisco has inaugurated its networking learning facility inside NIIT District Learning Centre. Cisco has donated networking equipment for the lab and would provide technological expertise and mentoring services to students at the Centre. NIIT will offer Cisco certification courses to students in Chhindwara, starting June.

"NIIT and our technology partners have deployed the most advanced technologies in the centre to ensure achievement of targeted learning outcomes," said Mr Vijay K. Thadani, CEO of NIIT.

DNA Money  
Chhindwara  
May 28, 2008

# Nath, lead technology companies converge at NIIT Centre

**DNA Money Bureau**  
Chhindwara

Following its commitment to harness talent pool from semi-urban India, leading Global Talent Development Corporation, NIIT, have announced the setting up of its second District Learning Centre in Chhindwara. Union minister for commerce & industry Kamal Nath laid the foundation stone for NIIT's new District Learning Centre in neighbouring Barkuhi town in Chhindwara district, yesterday.

The minister was joined by Intel, South Asia, managing director, sales & marketing R Sivakumar; Cisco India, director, global policy & government affairs, Harish Krishnan ; NIIT chairman Rajendra S. Pawar and other senior representatives from leading IT organizations like IBM, Infosys, TCS and Wipro, to flag off the second DLC, and address at the 1st Annual Convocation Ceremony at NIIT DLC in

Cisco, Intel and NIIT, amongst other large IT organisations to pledge support to help Chhindwara graduates become 'Global Professionals'  
NIIT announces the launch of 2nd District Learning Centre in the adjoining town of Barkuhi  
Cisco and Intel To Set Up Lab 'inside' NIIT DLC  
First Batch of students awarded titles at the 1st Annual Convocation Ceremony

Chhindwara.

Students passing out of the first batch of NIIT Chhindwara were awarded their certificates by the minister.

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Witnessing the encouraging response from the locals, and the demand raised by the industry, NIIT has laid the foundation of another state-of-the-art learning centre in the nearby Barkuhi town.

**NIIT**

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