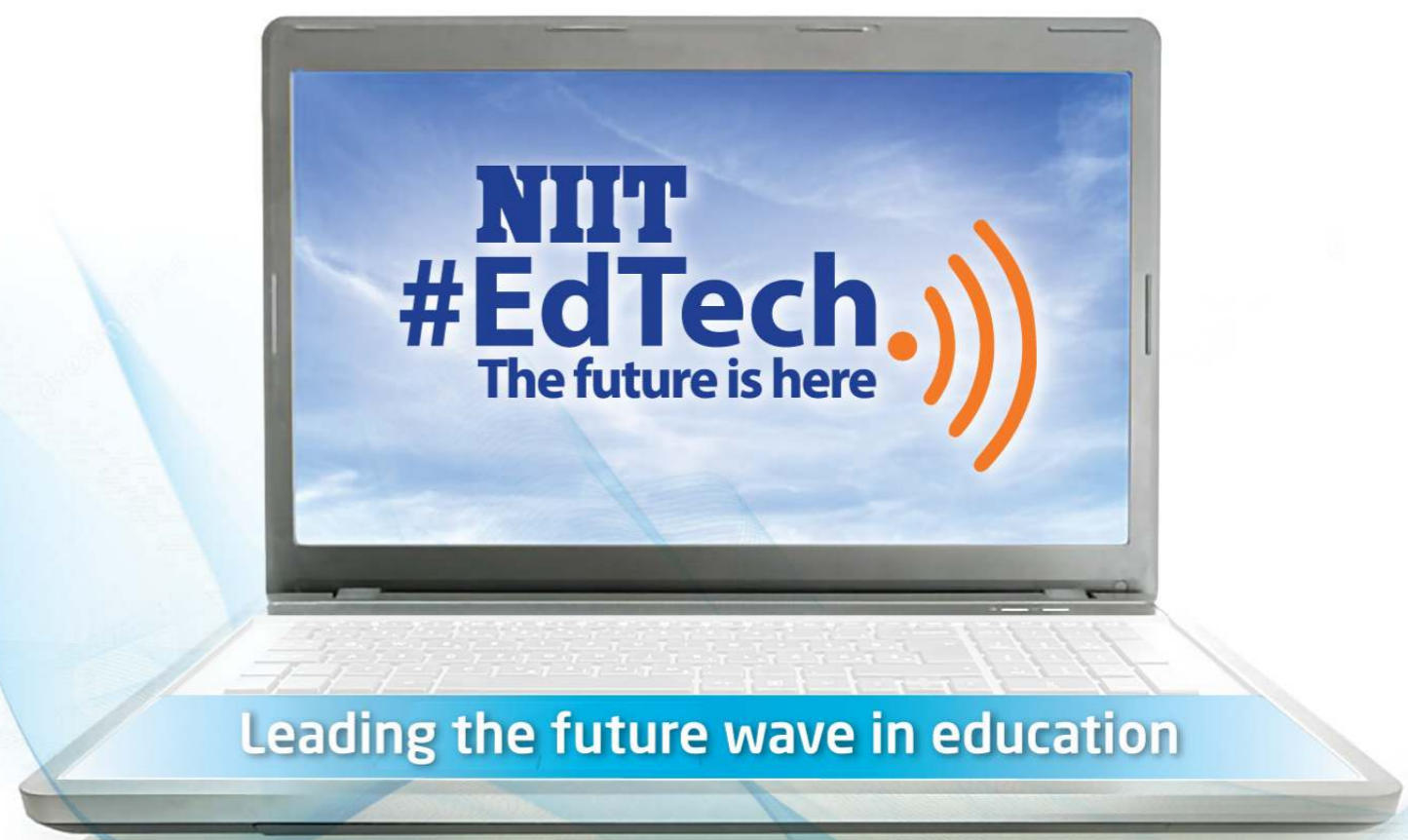


NIIT IN THE NEWS



NIIT

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NIIT.tv - A disruptive innovation by NIIT receives phenomenal response

NIIT Ltd., a global leader in skills and talent development, has received an overwhelming response for the beta launch of NIIT.tv. It has witnessed a four-fold increase over the initial limited target of 10,000 registrations that has been achieved without any marketing investment, demonstrating the immense power of the brand NIIT.

NIIT.tv is a democratic digital learning initiative that aims to bring high quality training from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time, place and language of their choice. Students accessing NIIT.tv will be able to access a rich bouquet of high quality, value-added services from NIIT centres in future, e.g. tutoring, professional certification, career counselling, and placement services. Within the first month of its launch, NIIT.tv registered students from more than 900 cities across India, and over 100 countries. In the initial phase, over 20 skill-based training programs in IT, Banking and Finance, Re-

tail and Management was made available, which was scaled up to more than 50 "live" as well as "on-demand" courses. NIIT.tv in this short start-up period has also registered one of the highest customer engagement on the site, as compared to its Indian and International counterparts. To further spread the reach of NIIT.tv, the company plans to take the user base to over a million over the next few months, covering every city/town having Internet access in India, and providing over 1000 courses through the platform. Significantly, NIIT.tv also makes it possible and actively encourages and invites every socially minded Indian, Corporation and NGO to generously share their valuable knowledge and/or Open Source Training Material by registering as a trainer/Content Partner on NIIT.tv and uploading their course description, videos and courseware for a guaranteed free lifelong learning benefit. NIIT.tv is aligned to the Digital In-

dia and Skill India campaigns announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr.NarendraModi earlier this year. The initiative, which was launched on October 6, 2015, seeks to offer very scalable yet a highly economical model, thereby enabling much faster achievement of Skill India goals. NIIT is committed to these campaigns and aims to train 10 million students across 16 industry sectors in 5 years.

Speaking on the success so far, Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd., said "The response that NIIT.tv has received from the students across India and overseas is unprecedented, and reiterates our belief that this initiative is a potent technological and pedagogical force multiplier that will help us create skilled workforce across multiple sectors, to cater to the manpower requirements of the industry. I am confident that this platform will help NIIT reach the goal of training 10 million students in five years."

Echo of India, Kolkata, November 22, 2015



Redefining innovation

The NIIT.tv by NIIT has announced a significant initiative to help school students succeed in their board exams. Titled, Board Exam Preparatory Classes, these fast track refresher courses are designed to help prepare students score higher grades. The courses will be made available on www.niit.tv for free. This initiative extends the unique technological platform to get that extra confidence boost to excel in their board exams. Two rounds of mock exams will also be organised in the months of January and February 2016. Live sessions will be held between 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm every day conducted over the Synchronous Learning Technology platform from the NIIT.tv studios.

The Statesman, New Delhi, December 18, 2015



NIIT tv unveils CBSE Board Exam Preparatory Classes for free

KOLKATA, DEC 22/--/ NIIT.tv—a disruptive innovation by NIIT, today announced a significant initiative to help school students succeed in their Class 10th & 12th CBSE board exams. Titled, Board Exam Preparatory Classes, these Fast Track Refresher Courses are designed to help prepare students score higher grades in their CBSE Board exams. The courses will be made available on www.niit.tv for free from 10th December onwards.

NIIT Ltd, a global leader in skills and talent development, launched NIIT.tv in October this year as a significant digital learning initiative

to bring skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice.

This initiative from NIIT.tv extends the unique technological platform to enable students get that extra confidence boost to excel in their board exams. A carefully curated program will be delivered live by expert teachers on NIIT.tv. Every care has been taken to not overload students, but instead help them recap and refresh what they have learnt while addressing doubts that remain. In fact special sessions dedicated to only clearing doubts have

also been planned. The students will also be able to view their sessions on demand as per their convenience. Two rounds of mock exams will also be organized on the NIIT.tv platform in the months of January and February 2016.

Preparatory classes on NIIT.tv are scheduled for Maths, Science, and English for Class 10th; Maths, Physics, Chemistry for Class 12th Science Stream and Accounting, Economics, Business Studies for Class 12th Commerce Stream. Live sessions will be held between 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every day. Sessions will be conducted over the Synchron

ous Learning Technology platform from NIIT.tv studios.

Speaking on the launch of Board Exam preparatory classes from NIIT.tv, Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd., said, "Technology can play a key role in making quality education and learning available to millions of students across the country. Through this initiative NIIT.tv will create a more level playing field for school students preparing for their board exams across the country. We hope that a large number of students will take advantage of this breakthrough offering from

NIIT."

Board Exam Preparatory Classes from NIIT.tv offers a very structured approach to preparation for the boards. These preparatory classes are based on the CBSE Exam pattern and focus on how to perform well in the exams and improve grades. The objective is not to teach them the full syllabus but prepare them to face the exam well through these classes.

Over the last 34 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT

with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committing to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum.

NIIT will also encourage and recognize its students and socially minded citizens who volunteer their personal time and effort to support new learners—especially from the underprivileged sections of society.

Through this collaborative effort, the company expects a lot more local language content to become available, which currently is in very short supply.

Echo of India, Kolkata, December 23, 2015

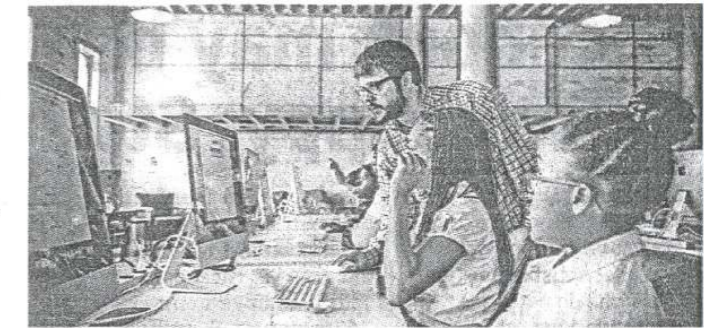


NIIT introduces 'Python'

New Delhi: Aiming to create a pool of 'Ninja programmers', NIIT has introduced 'Programming using Python' - the next generation programming for developers. Python is considered as one of the most preferred options today, for any high performance computing.

Python is a general-purpose, high-level programming language with a large support community. Python codes are used in almost every application ranging from forecasting weather, air traffic control systems, Disney animations to information security applications. In addition, these codes run behind many popular websites, such as YouTube, Bing, Instagram, etc.

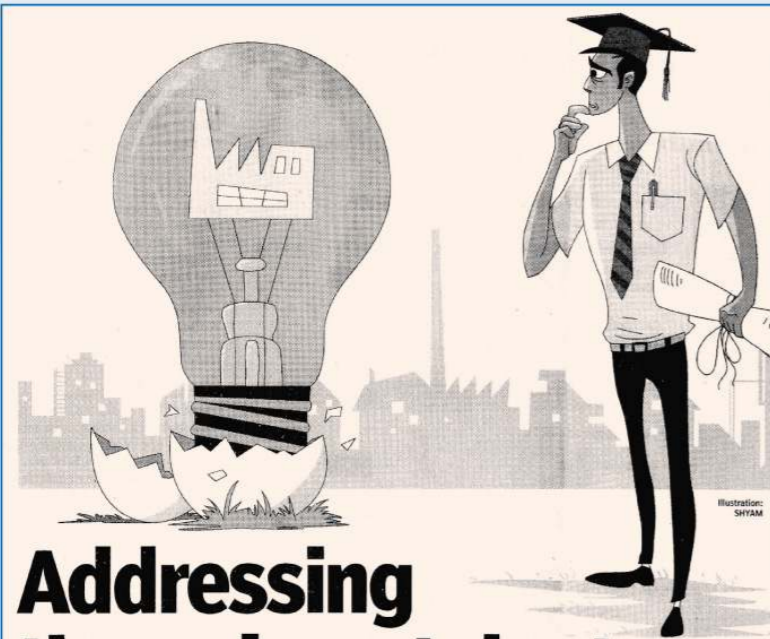
The Programming, using the



Python course from NIIT, has been structured such that even a student with no programming knowledge can easily pick up the language. This course is also ideal for a student who has worked with Java or C# and now wishes to enhance his skills by learning another popular open source lan-

guage. The course will help students construct program blocks using functions, understand construction of networked program using web services, store data to file, dictionaries and so on. Candidates who wish to apply for this course can visit: <http://www.niitcloudcampus.com/python>.

Hans India, Hyderabad, November 13, 2015



Addressing the unique talent needs of start-ups



UDAI SINGH

Of the several difficulties that start-ups face, perhaps the trickiest one can be finding the right talent

India's booming start-up industry is the centrepiece of many social conversations today. Entrepreneurship has emerged as the buzzword and focal point of most discussions related to the technology sector. Market research, studies by global analyst firms and the views of industry-watchers are all pointing towards a rapidly expanding start-up landscape. The horizon is ever-widening with over five new, innovative companies getting born almost every day!

While these are indeed exciting times for people with fire in their bellies and a passion to do something different, entrepreneurship is not all fun and games. On the contrary, it is a time of intense hard work, of significant struggle, swimming against the tide, and basically hanging in there. Every start-up has a story to tell, a challenge or two to talk about.

Of the several difficulties that start-ups face, perhaps the trickiest one can be finding the right talent—both at the time of start as well as subsequent expansion. As companies with shallow pockets—funding is the other looming problem—most start-ups have a hard time hiring the right people they need to get going. The technology sector, being knowledge-intensive, needs people with the right skill-sets, and unearthing those people at affordable salary points can be hard.

While theoretically there is an ocean of talent available, it seems to dry up very rapidly when the actual search begins. The best minds are usually grabbed up by bigger companies that have the means to pay them high salaries—and are perceived to be less risky. Coveted jobs clearly mean vying

for a placement in Google, Microsoft or any other prestigious name in the tech and non-tech worlds. Start-ups, however, are unable to match their hefty pay packets and juicy perks. It takes an adventurous person to bet on a start-up.

The poor start-up—with its few years in the market and low glamour quotient—is rarely ever the first choice for career seekers. Only recently has this trend changed significantly. The success achieved by start-ups is now placing them on the radars of students and professionals. Interestingly, many industry veterans, looking for excitement and a change of scene, are also turning to entrepreneurship.

The challenge, of course, doesn't end with hiring. It extends to building a team. While most large players know the ropes—they know just what kind of training to impart to new employees and how to integrate them into the company culture and ethos—start-ups have virtually no such existing systems in place. In fact, they are yet to establish their DNA and are still in the hit-and-miss phase of their organisation building. Creating a team that is

The poor start-up—with its few years in the market and low glamour quotient—is rarely ever the first choice for career seekers. However, of late, this trend is changing for the good. But then the challenge doesn't end with hiring. It extends to building a team

robust, like-minded and aligned is, therefore, difficult.

With no history to go by and little experience of how to get people to work together and deliver the goods, start-ups often struggle when it comes to nurturing teams that have the edge and can become a competitive advantage.

It may sound absurd to say this, but even leadership can be a challenge. Thousands of start-ups today are about that one crucial, explosive idea. Someone has an idea, and begins to work to commercialise it and bring it to market. One only has to look around to understand this. Often these ideas are not necessarily linked to the formal education qualifications

of the entrepreneur. There are enough and more tech graduates who are launching products in domains they know very little about. A B.Tech in chemical engineering from IIT Kanpur could be introducing a banking product without knowing a thing

about finance, or how to integrate the offering with a credit card system. There are MBAs, with virtually no background in science, who have launched websites that analyse the genetic characteristics of individuals.

Start-ups generally do not have the luxury of implementing division of labour. That comes much later. The founding team has to be versatile—and often willing to solve problems from first principles. They have to have the tenacity to go deep into an area that requires attention, and switch with ease to something else when done.

Each team member may be required to put on more than one hat. Today every business is a digital business and, therefore, it is not surprising that this versatility is expected of the technology team also—especially those involved in software development. In many digital businesses, the product comes alive only through software. This requires a whole new breed of programmers—especially in contrast to the large armies that have been assembled by the largest of IT services companies over the past two decades.

It is with this realisation that, at NIIT, we have identified an important requirement for programmers joining start-ups. They have to be good at both—identifying problems as well as doing whatever it takes to solve them. They are not likely to get well-defined requirements from customers and business analysts. From conceptualisation to deployment and operations, they are involved in all aspects of the technology solution. A start-up really cannot afford to have any other kind of programmer—only a full-stack programmer will do.

We have launched a special training initiative called StackRoute that mitigates the workforce challenges being faced by the start-ups in the area of software development. StackRoute, I must add, is committed to building ace programmers with the required knowledge and experience to be fully productive in a start-up or product engineering environment.

Such initiatives can be the right answer to address the unique talent needs of existing businesses undergoing a digital transformation as well as those of the growing start-up sector.

The author is chief strategy officer, NIIT Ltd

Financial Express, New Delhi, November 16, 2015



The NIIT Limited has introduced 'Programming Using Python' — the next generation programming for developers. Python is considered as one of the most preferred options today, for any high performance computing. The syntax of the language is designed to be readable. A recent study has shown that Python is one of the most in-demand programming language and is ranked second in the top 10 popular programming languages of 2015.

New course

The Python is a general-purpose, high-level programming language having a large support community. Python codes are used in almost every application ranging from forecasting weather, air traffic control systems, Disney animations to information security applications. In addition, these code run behind many

popular websites, such as YouTube, Bing, Instagram, etc.

The programming using Python course from NIIT has been structured such that even a student with no programming knowledge can easily pick up the language. This course is also ideal for a student who has worked with Java or C# and now wishes to

enhance his skills by learning another popular open source language. Candidates who wish to apply for this course can visit at <http://www.niitcloudcampus.com/python>. The course will help the students to construct programme blocks using functions, understand construction of networked programme using web services, store data to file, dictionaries and so on. Students will be trained under highly qualified experts and industry practitioners.

Pioneer, Chandigarh, November 18, 2015

PROGRAMME IN SOFTWARE TESTING

The NIIT has entered into a strategic partnership to offer PG certificate programme in Software Testing. The course will enable learners to apply key testing skills and practices using HP Tools.

Today, businesses run on software and are severely impacted when software applications malfunction. Software applications, particularly those on the cloud, often serve millions of end-users. High availability and bug-free software

applications are crucial to ensure customer satisfaction. Thus, software testing is vital to ensure the quality of a software application before it is deployed in a data centre or released to customers.

According to NASSCOM, the software testing outsourcing market is expected to grow from \$30 billion in 2010 to \$50 billion in 2020 worldwide and India is expected to be the biggest beneficiary.

Speaking on the launch

Shivan Bhargava, group president, Skills and Careers Group, NIIT Ltd said: "We have always believed in offering programs customised to the evolving needs of the industry. With the global software testing market witnessing a robust growth at a CAGR of 11 percent over the period 2013-2018, we have observed a growing demand for software testing professionals in India. Taking cognizance of the opportunity, we have entered into a partnership."

Pioneer, Lucknow, December 10, 2015



WNS partners NIIT Univ for training business analytics experts

New Delhi (PTI): BPM services major WNS has partnered with NIIT University (NU) for offering a two-year specialised work-integrated MBA course in Business Analytics.

The first part of the course will take place at the Neemrana Campus of NIIT University, followed by internship at WNS, under the supervision of the NU faculty. "There is a huge demand and growth opportunity for analytics. While we have a large research and analytics practice of over 2,500 professionals, we are further looking to build on the talent supply," said WNS Group CEO Keshav Murugesh. He added that two batches of 60 students each will be inducted every year.

The first batch will commence from June 2016. Eligibility criteria includes graduates with Mathematics as one of the subjects, followed by at least two years of work experience. "These people coming in are professionals who are taking time off their work to get trained.

WNS will bear the cost of

training and also provide a stipend, which comes to about Rs 15 lakh per student. Also, when these people join us, they can get starting salaries of Rs 15 lakh," he said. Murugesh said the graduating students will be placed in key positions in the analytics practice of WNS.



"The programme will draw upon live case-studies and practitioner-experts from WNS to ensure the right blend of academic concepts and industry application," NIIT Group Chairman and NU founder Rajendra S Pawar said. He added that the introduction of the new course is in line with its philosophy of offering industry-aligned higher education.

Hans India, Hyderabad, November 25, 2015



IFBI places 12 students in ICICI Bank

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 28: Institute Finance Banking and Insurance (IFBI), Jammu Branch again got placed 12 students in ICICI Bank--India's Largest Private Sector Bank.

IFBI was formed in 2006 as a joint venture of NIIT Limited, a leading Global Talent Development Corporation-Asia's Largest IT Trainer and ICICI Bank, to meet the manpower challenges of multi skilled and trained professionals in fast evolving sector of banking, financial services and insurance.

This latest batch of students will join as Senior Officer in ICICI Bank at various locations like Jammu, Udhampur, Akhnoor, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Jalandhar. Initially, their package after internship will be around Rs 2.4 lakh annually. These students will assume duties from November 30.

IFBI is in 9th years of successful journey and has trained over 125,000 BFSI professionals through corporate programmes and over 32,500 IFBI students got placed in leading

BFSI organizations. IFBI created a unique concept of "Offer Letter" at the time of enrollment for "Training Program--PGDBO" in which the students undergo training for 3 months, followed by paid internship. IFBI is rated as Best Training School in the banking and financial services domain by Nielson Survey of May 2009. It is currently India's largest banking education and training institutions.

IFBI's Jammu Branch has completed its 5 years of operations and has also trained and placed more than 400 students with ICICI Bank alone along with some placements done in other BFSI companies.

Rahul Sharma, CEO of the NIIT Jammu Franchisee Company presided over the function and handed over the appointment letters to these candidates. He advised the selected candidates not only to be sincere and hardworking but also perform their duties honestly to the best interests of clients of the bank.

Daily Excelsior, Jammu, November 29, 2015



Forecasts for a job-rich India

CRYSTAL BALL GAZING If India wants its abilities to dovetail with the needs of the market, it will have to mould itself in line with the dynamic present, not the static past



N. MADHAVAN
SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In the early 1980s on the streets of Delhi, a little-known company with an institute-sounding name, NIIT, advertised for students, talking about the future potential of an industry called software. Computers were then hardly in vogue in India, with IBM having been unceremoniously thrown out by the government in 1977. HCL, one of those companies that tried to replace IBM as a computer maker, parented NIIT. Yet, it was only a decade later that most of India woke up to the industry. Tentative beginnings were such that software experts at HCL and NIIT were then doing stuff that future giants such as Oracle and SAP were doing at the same time.

TOMORROW
Rajat Chauhan on how to make India a fitter and healthier nation

What India lacked then was two things: foresight and ambition. Typewriters gave way to computers, with old jobs fading and new careers springing up. The challenge for India now is to spot the future sunrise industries while shedding baggage of the past.

To a good extent, the dramatic informalisation of skilling initiatives under the Skill India mission does reflect a positive change from the moribund system of formal education, but the world has changed so much, that it may be desirable to find even newer grounds.

Schemes such as Make In India smell of the same old dreams: Build infrastructure, create factory jobs, and be like the China of the 1990s or US of the mid-20th century.

Things, however, seem to have moved on in the larger world. That is where future-gazing and future-readiness may be key performance areas for policy-makers, corporate strategists and entrepreneurs.

Increasingly, there is focus on creativity across a set of industries. This would require a mindset that goes beyond the narrow "skill" approach. There is no doubt that skills will generate higher

wage jobs but they will still be "McJobs" associated with assembly lines.

Can India look beyond that? It probably can and should. Recent studies have shown that nations that have strong English-language capabilities are more likely to attract research and development investments. Now, if India, aided by science education and English, leaps into cutting-edge innovations, does it need a different approach in deciding where public investments should go and skills should be built? Can India the global R&D hub get the better of India the manufacturing hub? New areas beckon. Electric cars, genomics, robotics, renewable energy and big data analytics are examples of activities or industries in which economic paradigm shifts would render obsolescent some of the old industries.

Dovetailing emerging demand with supply of skills requires calibration at many levels. There may be a requirement for a multiplexing of educational qualifications with attributes such as design thinking, creativity and flexible management styles.

We live in an age where a huge amount of self-service skilling will happen through the Internet and videos. Web ventures such as Lynda.com, Coursera, Udacity and Khan Academy are redefining education - both at the basic and mid-career level. Public policy makers and administrators need to "recede and facilitate" rather than "build and control" in a framework where entrepreneurial ferment seems strong. NIIT's former research head Sugata Mitra used to speak of a "just-in-time" system of education that would help flexible learning suited to emerging jobs. Can India's public policy rise to such a challenge?

At a fundamental level, climate change, management of urban pressures and universal healthcare initiatives may in themselves generate "socially oriented" jobs by the millions. These may even be more productive than the faded factory jobs.

Who knows, Swachh Bharat may spell more jobs than "Make In India!"

The future is not something easy to predict on the basis of what others might have done in the past. Its contours must be spotted in the tectonic shifts of a dynamic world.

Forecasting skills may be, in that sense, the mother of all skills.

HT-Ipsos Connect Survey

INCREASING (BRIGHT)NESS

The government wants to buttress India's economic growth and the Make in India campaign by leaping to the 50th position on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index. We check what people feel can be done to forge ahead

JOBS NEEDED*

Jobs are needed for 120 mn people, who will enter the workforce in the next 10 yrs

- 55% respondents said that the govt needs to eliminate delay and boost activity in the infra sector in order to create more jobs. This was followed by giving tax incentives to cos to boost output at 52%
- 44% felt incentives to labour incentive sectors and building matching skill-sets can help spur employment
- 37% said reducing the cost of doing business is the key factor that can help create more jobs

LAND AND LABOUR KEY

Reforms have been a key plank of this govt, and it will need to keep going

- 53% of those surveyed said simplifying land acquisition and labour laws are the reforms govt should undertake immediately
- 16% respondents said expanding the judiciary should be the first reform measure
- 15% said implementation of Goods and Services Tax should be done first

FOOD PRICE RIDDLE

Food prices have risen steadily, despite overall inflation being low

- 42% said that hoarding and failure of monsoon were behind rising food prices
- 26% attributed the price rise to the fall in the rupee's value
- 22% said increase in income, which was pushing up demand, was to be blamed

CHEAPER LOANS

RBI has cut rates, but they would need to be passed on

- 32% said lower interest rates were most important to sustain economic revival
- 27% said that more tax breaks was the key factor to keep up growth
- 25% thought reversal of adversarial tax laws can help do the same

METHODOLOGY: The survey was conducted in 12 Indian cities divided into two groups: Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Delhi (Metros); and Jaipur, Lucknow, Patna, Kochi, Ahmedabad, Pune (Tier 1). A total of 2,036 respondents over 18 yrs were surveyed from Nov 5-11 and 54% respondents were male. All ratios are a percentage of the total sample. *Respondents were allowed to choose more than one option

Hindustan Times, New Delhi, November 30, 2015



B TECH & M TECH

The NIIT University (NU) invites applications for early admissions (EAD) to B.Tech in Biotechnology (BT); Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) and Computer Science and Engineering (CSE). And B.Tech-M.Tech Integrated Dual Degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE); Computer Science and Engineering (CSE); Biotechnology (BT); Educational Technology (ET) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Those who are interested to apply should have —

- 60 per cent marks or equivalent grades in Class X from CBSE/ICSE/any other board in India or its equivalent from any other country in five subjects (four compulsory subjects are English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Fifth can be any subject of the student's choice).
- 60 per cent marks in Class XII from any Board in India or its equivalent from any other country in five subjects (four compulsory subjects are Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics or Biology (PCM/PCB) and English. Fifth can be any subject of the student's choice).
- For ISC board or a student who has only four subjects, aggregate will be calculated for four subjects only.

Score in Class XII PCM -60 per cent for CSE and ECE.

Score in Class XII PCM -60 per cent for CSE and ECE.



In PCB or PCM, candidates should have 60 per cent for Bio-Technology.

- Have appeared or is appearing in either JEE-Main or BIT-SAT or SAT or any State engineering entrance examination or NIIT University Engineering Test (NUET).

Shortlisted candidates have to go through a Personal Counselling Interaction (PCI). They will also have to appear for the NIIT University Engineering Test (NUET) as part of PCI. This will be followed by interaction with parents of shortlisted candidates.

The early admissions students will get access to 'Head Start Programme' at NU, which enables them to get an early start into the B.Tech Programme. NU supports the early admissions candidates for their Class XII exams through the 'Study Smart Initiative'. It also ensures that the student can be stress free and can focus on doing well in their Class XII Board examinations.

Applications have been open since October 5, 2015 and the programme begins from July 14, 2016 at NIIT University, Neemrana.

Pioneer, New Delhi, December 02, 2015



Khan Academy's new math videos in Hindi aim to reach 450m students in India. Sunday Times maps other big trends in digital education

The MOOC is in session

Online instruction is helping Indians open career doors

Joeanna.Rebello@timesgroup.com

In 2013, Dr Balesh Jindal signed up on Coursera for the first-ever MOOC (massive, open, online course) on social psychology offered by Wesleyan University. She felt an application of its principles to her practice would help her engage more effectively with her patients.

The 56-year-old Delhi resident was among 250,000 participants. Turned out her final essay, based on her outreach to girls in a neighbourhood government school, showing them how to identify and report sexual violence, was voted best of all.

She was invited to Stanford University for three days to be awarded a certificate and meet the Dalai Lama, who was visiting the campus. Her stay and travel were sponsored by Stanford, where Dr Jindal not only met the monk, but also eminent academics, including author and psychologist Philip Zimbardo, who ran the famous Stanford Prison Experiment in 1971. Dr Jindal, who says the experience virtually changed her life, plans to switch careers to counselling, a decision galvanised by that first MOOC. "Though I

Many companies that hire for technical roles, Google for example, have started listing open online courses from Coursera as recommended job qualifications



couldn't pursue my dream of studying in an American university, the MOOC brought world-class lectures into my living room," she says.

As course providers like edX, Coursera and others look to offer more rigorous, certificate programmes, university-compatible credits, and specialisations tailored for industry, Indians are beginning to see not just knowledge, but better career prospects in MOOCs. In Coursera's first-ever learner outcome survey in September, it emerged that 33% of the 2,076 Indian online learners polled were looking for career-building benefits, while 35% sought to further their education.

Coursera has about 1.2 million Indian registrants. "Our learners may not have the option to structure their lives around their education, but rather need the flexibility to mould their education around the constraints of their life," says Daphne Koller, Stanford professor and one of the co-founders, along with Andrew Ng, of Coursera. "New technology platforms and greater acceptance of online certificates by employers are allowing these people to transform their careers," she adds. Google, for one, has started listing courses from Coursera as recommended qualifications for a job.

And it's not just global Goliaths that see recruitment value in MOOCs. When a 25-year-old senior manager

wanted to pursue a \$445 MOOC on business analytics by the Wharton School, her employer, Delhi startup KleverKid offered to cough up 20% of the fee.

COO Priyanka Khanna says they want to encourage continued learning. "There are so many career specialisations for which we don't have the necessary educational infrastructure in India, and MOOCs fill the gap," she says.

Start-ups also perhaps identify with self-starters in the company who commit themselves to professional improvement. Vivek Shangari, a serial entrepreneur who's running his third enterprise AoeHacker, a coding bootcamp, lacks a college education but is armed with MOOC degrees in technology and management. "For me online courses were the only option," says Shangari, who has made it mandatory for all his employees to take one online course every year. "It can be anything, a new coding language or poetry but it's a must and 5% of the appraisal is tied to the employee's performance in the online course," says Shangari.

There's also a soundproof cabin in the office where his employees can take lessons for an hour every day without work-related interruptions. Even NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning), the online campus launched jointly by the IITs and IISc last year, has been trying to set itself up as an accredited route to jobs. A spokesperson said they're in talks with IIT majors to ensure that students who have NPTEL certificates get short-listed by companies during recruitment and internships (including internships at the IITs themselves).

Backed by NASSCOM, NPTEL largely attracts students of engineering, often from far-flung colleges that may not offer the sort of electives pre-

ferred by students of government schools. "There's an advantage when you bring interesting things to children. They tend to work better," says P Sridhar, who quit a well-paying engineering job last year to teach and mentor the children in the school. They no longer use rote to solve problems, they can use maths to calculate the distance robots need to travel, or the time taken for a command to be executed. Their latest achievement is making the two robots in the lab exchange commands using Bluetooth.

The Indian education sector is quickly adapting to technology. More than 400 educational technology firms were launched in the last decade. That said, most of these initiatives —

Additional to a Tamil-speaking engineering student in Kurnool or Tirunelveli, it offers a rare opportunity to be certified in a subject that improves career prospects in the urban market — like the elements of visual representation or even spoken English (for which the candidate makes audio submissions). And even though international MOOC providers co-opt translators, NPTEL believes its courses are better tailored for the Indian context, internet connectivity, and language. For example, rural colleges with deficient internet connectivity can download the course material on the LAN network. Demand drafts can be used to pay the exam fee of Rs 1,000 for those who don't have access to credit card or netbanking.

And finally, subtitles and transcripts. "In rural parts, kids watch Hollywood movies dubbed in local languages," points out an NPTEL moderator. "So to help students better understand the courses, we plan to subtitle the lectures and provide transcripts in as many Indian languages as possible."

ments have certainly enabled a lot of things inconceivable earlier. Today, our experience shows, learning and teaching can become more democratic, taking teachers to students, or allowing the latter to pick the former," says Vamsi Krishna, CEO & co-founder of Vedantu, a live online tutoring platform which uses technology to bring together teachers and students.

But he also speaks of the need for a government policy framework to be expedited to make the same available for those who cannot afford these, such as government schools.

However, in the absence of such a policy, private and non-government initiatives are trying to extend these technologies to government schools. US-based free online tutorial provider, Salman Khan's eponymous academy for one, intends to tailor tutorials to the NCERT curriculum in all major Indian languages.

Sridhar's robotics lab is funded by Akshara Foundation, which has also tied up with the government to teach maths to primary schools. Bengaluru-based international school, Inventures Academy, recently brought the Khan Academy module to its campus and opened it up to students of government schools in the hope that it could enable them to learn independently.

Says IIT-B founder director Prof S Sadagopan: "In countries like the US, the government took the lead and put in place infrastructure key for such initiatives. There is enough scope for India to do the same, except that there may be a lack of will. A lot of projects get abandoned. Nobody seems to see if these have been implemented."

He adds that even if these have been implemented, it will be stories like Viveknagar that will matter more. "Technological advances



BETWEEN HIGH TECH & NO TECH

Those in govt schools may not tote smartphones and iPads, but a few non-profits are trying to bridge the digital learning gap

Chethan.Kumar@timesgroup.com

It's 7.40pm on a cold November evening in Bengaluru. Lights are on in just one room of a government school in Viveknagar, home to hundreds of disadvantaged families. In a few minutes, the lights go out and kids walk out of a robotics lab, rather out of place in a government school battling for funds to build toilets. But this lab has changed the lives of the children. A year ago they couldn't handle calculators, today they win robotics competitions, an enviable achievement even for posh private schools.

There's an advantage when you bring interesting things to children. They tend to work better," says P Sridhar, who quit a well-paying engineering job last year to teach and mentor the children in the school. They no longer use rote to solve problems, they can use maths to calculate the distance robots need to travel, or the time taken for a command to be executed. Their latest achievement is making the two robots in the lab exchange commands using Bluetooth.

The Indian education sector is quickly adapting to technology. More than 400 educational technology firms were launched in the last decade. That said, most of these initiatives —

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School textbooks go the iTunes way

Shobita.Dhar@timesgroup.com

Education is ditching the one-size-fits-all model in favour of customisation, a fact Mark Zuckerberg underscored in his open letter to his daughter, in which he wrote: "Our generation grew up in classrooms where we all learned the same things at the same pace... You'll have technology that understands how you learn best and where you need to focus". India is all ears and has already put word to action.

While online tuition portals allow students to cherry-pick teachers at attractive rates, some portals are servicing students with individual chapters from reference books. For example Fastudent, an edu-tech aggregator, offers separate chapters on, say, chemical kinetics or rotational motions, for IIT-JEE exams for Rs 300. "It's like what iTunes did to the music industry. Instead of buying an entire album, just purchase a single track for 99 cents," says Geetanjali Khanna, COO, Fastudent. While private edutech companies swung into action early on, the government too has come up to speed, and its Digital India programme has taken bespoke learning to the masses.

In July, the department of electronics and information technology initiated eBasta, a mobile app for android phones that provides e-textbooks for Classes 1 to 12 free of cost to students of government schools, who can download content, chapter by chapter. For now, the school syllabi of Mad-



The internet puts coaching centres to the test

Shobita.Dhar@timesgroup.com

In India, one out of four students takes private tuition, according to the latest NSSO data. A 2013 ASSO-CHAM survey valued the Indian coaching industry at Rs 1.5 lakh crore. Clearly, if technology is transforming education, it cannot bypass the parallel education system. Geetanjali Khanna, COO of edutech aggregator Fastudent, says that chartered accountancy (CA) has seen the biggest shift from offline to online coaching. "Most aspirants now buy CA lecture sets online in the price-range of Rs 700 to Rs 3,000 per set," says Khanna, adding that numbers will only rise as students are increasingly strapped for time.

"Travel time has increased, making physical attendance at coaching centres difficult. Also, students are pursuing many co-curricular activities in addition to academics. All these factors make online tuition more appealing," says Khanna. Aakash, a leading brand in coaching for medical and engineering entrance,

recently launched Aakash Live, an online platform where students can attend live instructor-led classrooms from anywhere. The online tool offers course schedules, asynchronous discussion sessions, integrated cloud storage for content and access to class recordings.

Then there are websites that train students to crack competitive exams with tailor-made solutions. Embibe, with over four lakh enrollments since 2012, offers highly personalized coaching for entrance exams to engineering and medical courses. Their instructors pinpoint the weaknesses of each student by tracking time spent over every question in online mock tests, and then offer personalized solutions and speed tips. The website also has a 'rank predictor' tool that estimates your all-India rank based on the marks you score in individual subjects in mock tests.

Such tools are a boon to those who live in smaller towns and can't afford to move to a bigger city just for coaching. "We encourage students to stay in the comfort and convenience of their locality and pursue their professional goals through e-learning and digital education," says Aakash Chaudhry, director, Aakash Educational Services Private Limited.

So will coaching hubs like Kota eventually lose their popularity? Unlikely, say industry experts. The future market will be a blend of classroom and digital teaching. "Both classrooms and teachers will stay, but the method of instruction and learning will become more digitized," Khanna concludes.

Web and mobile-based coaching apps are a boon for those who live in smaller towns and can't afford to move to big tuition hubs

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Certificate Programme in Global Finance and Accounting

NIIT Institute for Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI), recently announced the launch of a two-month Certificate Programme in Global Finance and Accounting. 'FinVantage' is a comprehensive fast-track training programme in Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable. It aims to provide skilled talent for the BPM industry all across India by identifying and equipping students with necessary skills for higher productivity and performance.

Students will learn about international accounting standards, processes and terminologies and become competent in skills required for a career in Global Finance and Accounting.

Certificate Programme in Global Finance and Accounting is an industry recognised programme aligned to the Transactional F&A QP of NASSCOM.

After the successful completion of the programme

candidates will be awarded with a certificate and will be provided 100 per cent placement assistance.

Over the past year NIIT IFBI has trained over 400 candidates in Finance and Accounting roles in BPM Industry. NIIT will leverage existing relationships with leading corporates for the same.

Speaking on the launch Bimal Jain, President IFBI said, "The objective of this programme is to create a sustainable, high-quality, cost-effective model to deliver trained resources for F&A and to build a talent pool for the BFSI and BPM industry."

Commerce graduates with minimum 50 per cent marks can apply for this program. Candidates should have basic understanding of Accounting and should possess good communication skill.

Candidates who wish to apply for this course can visit:

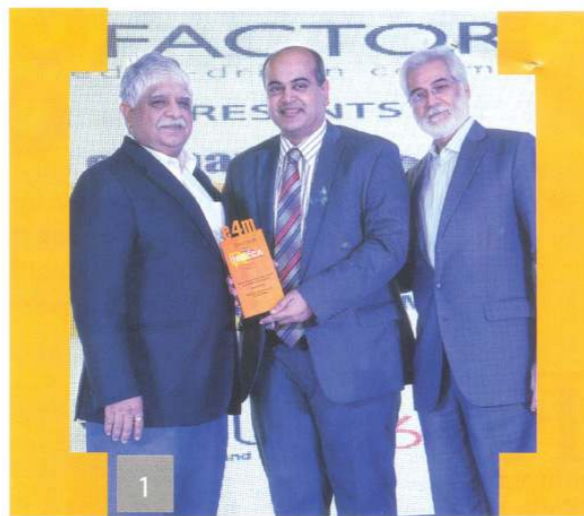
<http://www.ifbi.com/finvantage.aspx>

The Tribune, New Delhi, December 16, 2015



IPRCCA 2015 AWARDS HONOUR EXCEPTIONAL WORK IN PR & COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY

The India PR & Corporate Communications Awards 2015 (IPRCCA) organized by the exchange4media Group were held in Gurgaon recently. Adfactors PR Pvt. Ltd. walked away with the coveted title of 'PR Consultancy of the Year'. Pankaj Pachauri, veteran journalist & ex-advisor to the PM of India, Director, Jaypee Business School was the chairperson of the jury, which picked the winners. Exceptional work in the field of PR and Corporate Communications across four categories and 22 sub categories were awarded at the event.



- 01 Madan Bahal of Adfactors PR, who won the Lifetime Achievement Award, with Himanshu Kapadia of Aditya Birla Group and Rajesh Chaturvedi of Adfactors PR
- 02 Congress Leader Chandan Yadav, Senjam Raj Sekhar of Flipkart, Paresh Chaudhry of Madison PR, BJP Leader Nupur Sharma, Pooja Pathak of Media Mantra and Communication Consultant Anup Sharma
- 03 Deepak Jolly of Coca-Cola India, Prateek Chatterjee of NIIT Limited, Paroma Chowdhury of SoftBank International, Xavier Prabhu of PRHUB, Communications & Public Affairs Advisor Deepak Mukarji, Aparna Sharma of India Brand Equity Foundation
- 04 Aparna Sharma of India Brand Equity Foundation and the winning Perfect Relations team with Jack Uppal of General Motors India



Impact, National, December 13, 2015



WNS and NIIT University partner to launch a new MBA in Business Analytics

WNS (Holdings), the provider of global Business Process Management services, and NIIT University (NU) last week announced the launch of a two-year specialised and work-integrated MBA in Business Analytics. It has been co-created by academic experts from NU and senior professionals from the WNS analytics practice. The first part of the MBA will take place at NU's Neemrana Campus, followed by internship at WNS, under the supervision of the NU faculty. "WNS partners with over 200 clients across the globe, and sees analytics becoming important for sharper and smarter decision-making. While we have a large research & analytics practice of over 2,500 professionals, we want to build on the talent supply with a customised intervention like this MBA. Chosen students will join the WNS family," said Keshav R Muruges, group CEO, WNS. The first batch will commence in June 2016 and eligibility criteria includes graduation with mathematics, followed by two years of work experience.

Financial Express, Chandigarh, November 30, 2015

NIIT University and PwC India enter into partnership



PwC India and NIIT University (NU) have entered into a strategic partnership to introduce a two-year work-integrated specialised master's programme in cyber security from the academic session July 2016. With this programme with NU, PwC India is collaborating with academia to bring industry-ready talent into the market, readily employable with required customised skills set. The cyber security market is currently \$1 billion and is expected to grow to \$35 billion by 2025 due to the high demand for skilled professionals in the space. **BS REPORTER**

Business Standard, New Delhi
December 29, 2015

NIIT varsity, PwC India in pact

New Delhi, December 28

NIIT University (NU) has partnered consultancy firm PwC India for creating a trained talent pool of cyber security professionals in India. Under the partnership, academic experts from NU and senior professionals from PwC India have co-created a two-year work-integrated specialised Master's Programme in cyber security. "Cyber security market is currently at \$1 billion and is expected to grow to \$35 billion by 2025. The demand for skilled professionals in the space is very high coming from across industry sectors and government," NIIT Group Chairman and NU founder Rajendra S Pawar told reporters here. The programme, which has a course fee of over ₹4 lakh, will emphasise on security analytics, threat intelligence and vulnerability analysis. **PTI**

Hindu Business Line, New Delhi
December 29, 2015



GRADUATE 2.0

A look at some of the winnable attributes expected of a graduate in the next five years



A candidate who is flexible and can come up with new ideas is an asset for any organisation. (Below) Panelists at the AIMA HR summit held in the Capital last week.

RAMESH SHARMA



By Education Mail Bureau

WHAT are some of the essential attributes required to lead a successful enterprise in the next five years? If corporate honchos and recruiters are to be believed, it boils down to three things: agility, adaptability and disruptability. They frequently look for these qualities when it comes to placing their bets during hiring. The responses came at a 'National Summit on HR 2.0', organised by the All India Management Association (AIMA) in the Capital recently.

According to Vijay K. Thadani, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, NIIT Ltd, and co-founder, NIIT University, agility of a candidate is paramount. "It is a very important requirement," he said responding to the query on attributes posed by T.V. Mohandas Pal, Chairman, Manipal Global Education Services, and Vice-President, AIMA.

"It is an attribute that does not come naturally because as you move up, you tend to get slower," said Thadani. So a candidate who can swim against human beings' natural resistance to change is an asset for any organisation. But it does not mean disregard for anything that is old or traditional. "They



Agility is an attribute that does not come naturally, because as you move up the ladder, you tend to get slower. It is the mental age that matters.

— VIJAY K. THADANI, Co-founder, NIIT University

must also have the maturity to keep whatever is useful from the old," said Thadani. And maturity doesn't necessarily mean you have to have grey hair. "It is the mental age of a candidate that matters, not the beard," added Thadani. Per-

Maturity doesn't necessarily mean grey hair

haps, nothing matters more to an employer than the ability of an employee to stay connected and gauge the mood of the consumers. "Technology really is an asset when it comes to online feedback. If you can get to respond immediately to a customer griev-



Young people are extremely impatient. They want to build a lifestyle fast, but fail to realise that there is a journey. You have to crawl before you walk.

— SANGEETA TALWAR, Former MD, National Dairy Development Board

ance it will help an organisation immensely," said Thadani. For Sangeeta Talwar, former managing director, National Dairy Development Board, this ability to stay connected also means an element of empathy from the part of the candidates. "It does not mean having a one-minute conversation with the office boy who brings you tea,

but humility," said Talwar. The challenge, according to her, is in retaining candidates who are talented, humble and connected. "Young people are extremely impatient. They want to build a lifestyle fast. But they fail to realise that there is a journey in life. You have to learn to crawl before you walk and run. The

current generation doesn't have the time to learn," said Talwar. The importance of self-learning was also highlighted by Sushil Muhnot, Chairman and Managing Director, Bank of Maharashtra. "In an evolving business environment you constantly need to learn. People are constantly changing," said Muhnot. He predicts how automation will render humans redundant for most of the banking roles a few years down the line.

"Employees will be required to do more of sales and services. Other banking roles will be replaced by technology," said Muhnot. In short, a vision or an ability to see where your chosen industry is heading is what is required equally for a fresh graduate or an aspiring chief executive. This is something which e-commerce major Flipkart had in abundance when it took birth as a start-up in 2007.

"We had a bold and honest vision that got people excited about us," said Meekin Maheswari, Chief People Officer, Flipkart. Having a bold vision and purpose helps in attracting people who want to bring a change in the world even if it

Technology is a valuable tool in online feedback

means working in a non-air-conditioned environment, ordering tea and samosa from the local tea seller.

But how do they weed out the best from the rest, considering the fact that a vast majority of

the applications which Flipkart gets do not make the cut? "We ask applicants to write a piece of code, an engineer who doesn't know this, is not fit to work in our company," said Maheswari.

"In this way we can weed out a bulk of the irrelevant applications," he said. And just like the way familiarity with modern technology or connectedness can be a decider when it comes to hiring, it can also lead to termination if you go overboard with it at work place. Most organisations are uncomfortable at the sight of an employee using social media for personal use at work time.

"Do you want a pilot or a surgeon talk on his phone while flying or performing a surgery?" asked Talwar. "If you are not focused on your job you are highly replaceable. The same technology can be used to hire the next person," she warned.



WHAT'S NEW

Diplomas in music

Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music is inviting applications for Spring 2016 semester in India and abroad.

The Foundation Music Programme is a 10-week intensive training which will introduce students to the exciting field of music production and to the world of car-natic music as well.

The application window for the Spring 2016 batch will be open till January 7, 2016. The courses offered as part of the Spring 2016 programme are: one-year Diploma in Music Performance; two-year Diploma in Music Performance; single-semester Programme in Music Performance; one-year Diploma in Music Production and Technology; four-year Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance (with McNally Smith College of Music, Minnesota) and Foundation Music Pro-

gramme.

For more information call +91 7358000770 or email to admissions@sam.org.in.

Global finance and accounting

NIIT Institute for Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI) has launched a two-month certificate programme in global finance and accounting.

Students will learn about international accounting standards, processes and terminologies and become competent in skills required for a career in global finance and accounting.

Commerce graduates with minimum 50 per cent marks can apply for this programme.

Candidates should have basic understanding of Accounting and should possess good communication skills.

For more information visit: <http://www.ifbi.com/finvantage.aspx>.

Hindu, New Delhi, December 21, 2015

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Hindu, Chennai, December 21, 2015

NIIT sets up unit in Norway

NIIT has announced the establishment of a new facility in Bergen, Norway to expand its near-shore multi-lingual delivery capability and further invest in the rapid growth of its business in Europe. With this office, NIIT will be able to work closely with its Scandinavian customers with onsite administrative support and real-time delivery, a release said.

Deccan Herald, New Delhi
December 22, 2015



Anand confident of doing well in Candidates tournament

MADURAI: Chess icon Viswanathan Anand unveiled the NIIT Nuru MathLab@Class at the Mahatma Group of Schools here on Wednesday.

NIIT brand ambassador Anand said he was happy to launch this unique technology which had been designed to take teaching and learning of mathematics to a higher level.

Coming from the London Classic tournament this month where he finished ninth, Anand was confident of doing well in the next FIDE World Candidates tournament starting from March 10 at Moscow.

Addressing the media, he said: "It seems to be like a cycle. I do not think that the loss in London will have any impact at Moscow. But on saying that, I am disappointed with this constant fluctuations in my performance."

Anand said he was impressed with some young players from Tamil Nadu such as Grandmaster Aravindh Chidambaram, Karthikeyan Murali and Woman Fide Master M. Mahalakshmi.

Squashing rumours regarding retirement talks, Anand said: "I never told anything to the media in the first place. I would want to win the FIDE World chess candidates tournament in March, which in itself is a tough thing to do keeping in mind the quality of players."

He signed off by saying that the preparations for the Candidates tournament would start in January.

Anand also inaugurated the NIIT-IT Wizard programme at Keren School premises. — Sports Reporter



Anand. — PHOTO: R. ASHOK

Hindu, New Delhi
December 24, 2015



#EdTech. The future is here

<https://twitter.com/NIITLtd>

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 4 Nov 2015
 The stage is all set for discussion on New Learning Models through Disruptive Technologies #HigherEducation #EdTech
 FICCI, Rahul Patwardhan Pat, EduKart and Ishan Gupta

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 5 Nov 2015
 Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd on StackRoute Program by NIIT.
bit.ly/1k4v7cw
 #Skills2Win

At NIIT, we have launched a special training initiative called StackRoute that mitigates the workforce challenges being faced by startups in the area of software development. StackRoute is committed to building ace programmers with the required knowledge & experience to be fully productive in a startup or product engineering environment.

Udai Singh
 Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Limited

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 6 Nov 2015
 Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd on the success of NIIT.tv
 #Skills2Win
 Digital India, Skill India, Rahul Patwardhan Pat and YAS Ministry

The response that NIIT.tv has received from the students across India and overseas is unprecedented, and reiterates our belief that this initiative is a potent technological and pedagogical force multiplier that will help us create skilled workforce across multiple sectors, to cater to the manpower requirements of the industry. I am confident that this platform will help NIIT reach the goal of training 10 million students in five years.

Mr. Rahul Patwardhan
 CEO, NIIT Limited

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 17 Nov 2015
 Gavin Dabreo joined as CEO of MLSL to spearhead growth of NIIT's school learning initiatives
niit.com/india/training...

NIIT Ltd. appoints Gavin Dabreo as CEO of its K-12 school learning subsidiary -MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL)

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 18 Nov 2015
 Watch Edward Trolley share his thoughts on "Running Training Like a Business" here: youtube.com/watch?v=RxOIBX...
 NASSCOM and RAI

Edward Trolley
 Senior Vice President, Consulting and Advisory Services talks about "Running Training Like a Business"

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 19 Nov 2015
 NIIT showcasing its #EdTech initiatives at the @NHRDN_NCR.
 #inhrdn15
 #Skills2Win
 StackRoute and National HRD Network

NIIT
 Leading the future wave in Education Technology

NIIT Cloud Campus
 NIIT tv
 STACK ROUTE



#EdTech. The future is here

<https://twitter.com/NIITLtd>

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 23 Nov 2015
 Sapnesh Lalla, Prez, Corporate Learning Grp, NIIT Ltd. on the way forward for NIIT in IT space
niit.com/india/training...

IT training and technology customer education for the world's leading companies remain a focus area for NIIT. We will continue to build on our experience and expertise to deliver innovation, scalability, and value to this dynamic space.

Sapnesh Lalla
 President - Corporate Learning Group, NIIT Limited

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 24 Nov 2015
 Devenderjit Chadha on NIIT being named to @TrainingIndustr Top 20 IT Training Companies List
niit.com/india/training...
 TrainingIndustry.com

IT training is in our DNA. We started out as an IT training company 34 years ago and we are still continuously innovating in this space to provide value for our customers and their IT training ecosystem. We are honored to be among the Top 20 IT Training companies for the sixth year.

Devenderjit Chadha
 Senior Vice President, Learning Delivery and Operations at NIIT

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 24 Nov 2015
 Underlying Biz philosophy of NIIT - its success is a derivative of the successes of its Biz partners.
 #Franchise2015
 Vjay Thadani, Franchise India, PepsiCo and 2 others

NIIT Limited Retweeted
NIITguru @NIITguru · 30 Nov 2015
 New product launch. Excitement on. @NIITLtd @rpatwardhan

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 3 Dec 2015
 NIIT announces appointment of Amit Kaul as National Biz Dev Head, Corporate Learning, India
bit.ly/1O5qRRb
 ET NOW, Skill India, Skill India and National HRD Network

NIIT to grow Managed Training Services business in the Indian market. Appoints Amit Kaul as Business Development Head, Corporate Learning to drive growth.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 16 Dec 2015
 With the new facility in Bergen, Norway, NIIT has further invested in the rapid growth of its business in Europe.
 Rahul Patwardhan Pat, Prateek Chatterjee, Neelam Madan and 2 others



COVER
STORY

digitalllearning.eletsonline.com

Increasing Educational Productivity

A combination of digital platform-based services and physical services will serve the need of a large majority of customers who are looking for professional skills, tells **Udai Singh**, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd, to **Elets News Network (ENN)**

Use of technology has become an integral component of education. According to you, what are the challenges Indian higher education system is facing with regard to implementation of technology?

e-learning is not a new concept but is still developing. In the coming years, we are likely to witness dramatic changes in the space. Education industry today is battling several challenges like accessibility of quality education, expert teaching faculty etc. Even premier institutes like IITs and IIMs are faced with shortage of faculty. Therefore, technology in education should be used constructively and appropriately so that it has maximum impact. Technology *should* be used to resolve the challenges posed due to limited number of expert instructors.

The need of the hour is to embrace technology in education. If best institutes showcase their technology, it sets a trend for the rest to follow. This would require evolution in terms of pedagogy and education in design. The system has to evolve from teacher-centric to learner-centric with teachers becoming a part of the environment that fosters learning.

Online education can cover a wide spectrum of courses and curriculums from vocational courses, special skills training to degree courses and higher education courses. However, in a country where diplomas and degrees have greater importance than the actual knowledge or skill gained, a lack of accreditation and acceptance of online courses is an issue. With time, I think India will move towards a blended learning model.

NIIT is a blended player in the education space. We believe in a combination of digital platform-based

services and physical services at physical locations that will serve the need of a large majority of customers who are looking for professional skills.

With the help of technology, how can Higher Education Institutions play a pivotal role in imparting education to the public at large and serving the greater need of society?

We, at NIIT, believe that technology is becoming critical but pure technology delivery model can't deliver the results. So, you need the combination of technology and people-based delivery. In India, and other developing markets, technology can be a potent force multiplier that can dramatically increase the impact of other scarce resources such as expert instructors and physical learning infrastructure.

Recently, NIIT has launched a digital learning platform NIIT.tv, an Internet TV portal that can be accessed on a computer, tablet or smartphone anytime, anywhere. In the initial phase, over 20 skill-based training programmes in IT, banking and finance, retail and management were made available, which scaled up to more than 50 'live' as well as 'on-demand' courses.

'Access' to all & 'Quality' of education are the major fault lines in the education system in India. What role can technology play in bridging these fault lines?

The education space is evolving. Today, online learning opportunities and use of digital learning tools can help increase educational productivity by accelerating the rate of learning, reducing costs associated with instructional materials or programme delivery and better utilising teachers' time. Technology



Udai Singh
Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd

can ensure access to quality education anytime, anywhere.

At NIIT, we have always used technology-enabled delivery models innovatively to impart quality education to our students. We launched Netvaristy.com, one of the first initiatives in terms of online learning as early as 1996. Synchronous Learning Technology used in NIIT Imperia is another such example. We have also pioneered the concept of Cloud Campus in India.

How technological transformations and innovative learning tools can change the education landscape in India in the coming decade?

Technology is enabling multimodal teaching, changing curricula and spawning rich forms of online research and collaboration. Online-collaboration tools, software that supports individually paced learning and learning-management systems are among the communication technologies most expected to improve academics over the next five years. ■

digitalLEARNING / December 2015 23



NIIT, PwC India tie up to create talent pool for cyber security

fe Bureau

New Delhi, Dec 28: PwC India and NIIT University (NU) have joined hands to offer a two-year specialised master's programme in cyber security and create a pool of such professionals, as the two entities seek to tap the potential of the fast-growing market.

The country's cyber security market is expected to grow to \$35 billion by 2025 from just \$1 billion now. Realising the immense growth potential, even IT industry body Nasscom set up a Cyber Security Task Force earlier this year to build India as a global hub for providing cyber security solutions, prepare an R&D plan and develop a skilled workforce.

Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman of NIIT Group, said the partnership "is a step in that direction", as securing cyberspace is now a priority for businesses and calls for trained professionals. PwC India chairman Deepak Kapoor said cyber security is a growth driver for his company, which employs around 300 people for this purpose and will need to increase it ten fold to about 3,000 people over the next 4-5 years.

The classes for the first year of the programme (2016) will be held at the Neemrana Campus of the NU, followed by an internship at PwC India. PwC will invest in training and development of the candidates who will be employed with the company after the programme.

NIIT, PwC PACT ON CYBER SECURITY

New Delhi, 28 December: NIIT University run by IT company NIIT and Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) have entered into a strategic partnership towards creating a trained talent pool of cyber security professionals in India. Experts from NIIT University and senior professionals from PwC India have co-created a two-year work-integrated specialised masters programme in cyber security.

The cyber security market currently at \$1 billion, is expected to grow to \$35 billion by 2025. The demand for skilled professionals in the space is very high. This demand is coming from domestic companies spending in the country, multinational companies investing in India, increasing government activity in the cyber and cyber security space and information technology firms bringing in work from clients. SNS



BW BUSINESSWORLD

NIIT: Taking The Right Steps

NIIT has reinvented itself as an employer, bringing its hr policies in line with present day expectations



06 January, 2016 by Monica Behura

NIIT is well-known as the leading skills and talent development corporation that has been building a manpower pool for global industry requirements.

It was way back in 1981 that NIIT was set up to help the nascent IT industry in India to overcome its human resource challenges. Today, it ranks among the world's leading training companies owing to its vast, yet comprehensive array of talent development programmes in areas such as banking, finance and insurance, business process, retail sales enablement, management education, multi-sectoral vocational skills, digital media marketing, and new-age technology.

With a footprint across 40 nations, over 200 engineers working on education technology and a blended model that uses a mixture of teaching and learning process, NIIT is the largest Ed-tech company in the country today.

Innovation has been the key reason behind NIIT's success. Since its inception, the company has continued to undertake myriad innovative activities such as launching executive management programmes like Imperia and NIIT Uniqua. For every one, there was a small market at the time of launch; today these markets are huge. "The decisions were taken with the right evolving possible market and design. I think only the momentum with which we drove them to match the market needs is what did the trick," says Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT.

NIIT has been one of the top-performing IT stocks, up 75 per cent from a March low after the company turned away from government projects claiming they don't always pay on time.

"NIIT has shown good performance in the past couple of trading sessions, closing above that important resistance of Rs 95 to 97 and trading at almost Rs 100 right now with good volumes. So one will go with a Buy on that with a stop loss of Rs 97 for targets of Rs 110," says Abhisek Kumar, analyst at JM Financial Research.

Strengthening its operations in key international markets, including Europe and North America, NIIT recently established a new facility in Bergen, Norway to expand multi-lingual delivery capability and will further invest in the rapid growth of its business in Europe.



Transformation Plan

NIIT initiated its business transformation plan in October 2014 to usher the company into the next phase of growth. The first phase of the transformation was the re-structuring that initiated succession plans under which Patwardhan joined as the CEO of the company.

Besides this, the organisation appointed Shivan Bhargava as the group president of the Skills and Career Group. Vijay Thadani currently is the vice-chairman and managing director and P. Rajendran is the executive director of the company.

NIIT witnessed two key management appointments linked directly to its business transformation. Recently, it announced the appointment of Gavin Dabreo as the CEO of NIIT's K-12 school learning subsidiary, MindChampion Learning Systems (MLSL), now a separate entity. This was done to invite strategic investors and partners, as a separate entity would effectively cater to the independent growth and future expansion plans of the school learning business.

"Global Corporate Training Outsourcing is growing steadily; the multi-sector Indian market for quality career skills training has huge potential; while technology and policy shifts are creating space for disruptive new training business models," says Patwardhan.

Path to Profitability

The Business Transformation (BT) programme has contributed positively to the second quarter numbers. It enabled NIIT to get back to profitability and growth this year. This was reflected in a turnaround performance of the company in the first quarter of FY16 with net revenue at Rs 233.3 crore. In the second quarter, it posted a net revenue of Rs 272.5 crore.

Manage Training Services, (MTS) which is a part of the Corporate Learning Group (CLG), has grown five-fold over the past four years (from Rs 85 crore in FY11 to Rs 425 crore FY15). Revenue visibility for CLG is \$191 million with multi-year, multi-million dollar contracts.

The Skills and Careers (SNC) business is back in the black this year — already profitable and growing in the first half of 2015. Net debt is less than Rs 100 crore (gross debt less cash). The focus is to get back to profitability, and growth. It is well aligned to achieve the end objective of attaining sustainable and scalable growth for the company.

The education technology space is warming up with pure play technology companies launching education initiatives. "We believe that technology is becoming critical, but the key question is that the pure technology delivery model cannot deliver the results. So you need the combination of technology and people base delivery," says Patwardhan.

NIIT has reinvented itself as an employer over the years, bringing its HR policies in line with present day expectations. Understanding that it has to appeal to youth, the 34-year-old organisation introduced a series of initiatives like cool contests that encourages peer appreciation. NIIT was ranked as the "fourth best company to work for" in India by Great Place to Work Institute 2013-14.

<http://www.businessworld.in/article/NIIT-Taking-The-Right-Steps/06-01-2016-89966/>



To meet industry's requirement for job-ready talent, Industry Academia partnership is necessary

Create: 01/04/2016 - 19:50 Author: editor



Rohit Gupta, Chief Finance Officer, NIIT Limited joined NIIT's executive team in April 2011 as its Chief Finance Officer. Prior to joining NIIT, Rohit worked as Chief Financial Officer for Virgin Mobile India, and he was also Chief Planning Officer at Bharti Airtel Limited. He has over 18 years experience in finance and management, with background in operations, accounting, finance, fraud management, taxation, revenue management and cost minimization. He has a strong track record of driving operational improvements in processes in telecom industries. Rohit grew up in New Delhi, India and is a Member of Chartered Accountants of India. He has worked for leading corporate like the Shriram Group, Hutchison Max, British Telecom and Bharti Airtel Limited and Virgin Mobile Limited.

Q. How do you look at the journey of NIIT in the education sector so far?

A. The story of NIIT began in 1981 when three IIT graduates got together to do something innovative. The trio founded NIIT with an objective to optimize on the opportunity of booming IT education and training in India. Since its inception, NIIT has always evangelized the gospel of technology and endeavoured to create an IT enabled society. Through a franchise model, it first began imparting IT education and opened centres across every nook and corner of the country.

Cut to the present day, NIIT is on a transformative path and creating waves across the globe. Today, NIIT is by far one of the most successful digital organizations impacting millions of lives through its learning solutions that are carefully designed to suit the changing times. Be it in classrooms, corporate boardrooms or in individual learning spaces, NIIT is redefining talent and skills and preparing a pool of manpower for global industry requirement. NIIT was always synonymous with youngsters longing for a career in the IT sector more so in software development and computer education. Today, it's many innovative courses including Beyond IT proves that it is much more than what it was many years ago.

Q. What new initiatives have been taken by NIIT in past few years?

A. The education space is evolving. Today online learning opportunities and use of digital learning tools can help increase educational productivity by accelerating the rate of learning; reducing costs associated with instructional materials or program delivery; and better utilizing teacher time. NIIT is a pioneer in the use of technology in education. In India, and other developing markets, technology can be a potent force multiplier that can dramatically increase the impact of other scarce resources such as expert instructors and physical learning infrastructure.

Keeping the momentum of the Business Transformation that began with the 'Restructuring phase' followed by the 'Re-energising phase' and 'Renewal phase' that commenced from July 2015 and will evolve over next 3 years. The technology-enabled Renewal phase is led by the significant launch of NIIT.tv and StackRoute. NIIT.tv is a digital learning initiative that brings skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice. StackRouteTM is a pioneering initiative to create Full-stack programmers for the start-up industry. Hence from our current level, we are on our march to a billion dollars in terms of overall revenues combined with organic and inorganic growth.

These initiatives promise to meet the vast education, training and skilling needs of the country, in support of the



goals of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

Q. How can the skill gap that we are faced with currently be addressed?

A. Industry needs trained manpower but there is a shortage of appropriate skilled professionals which is a significant and complex challenge to India's growth and future. With the industry is expected to witness robust growth in the coming years, the need for certified job-ready professionals will be even more critical. According to a survey by Weelbox, out of about 3, 00,000 candidates who appeared for Employability Skill Test across domains, 37.22% were found employable. Hence, today we are faced with a skills gap that reflects on the quality of college education in India.

To overcome problem of skill gap and create quality professionals to meet the industry's requirement for job-ready talent, Industry Academia partnership is necessary. Companies offer business insight to the students and can help them get access to the latest research results and innovative new methodologies. Educational Institutes should also design their courses according to the needs of the industry, thus making it a win-win situation for both the parties.

NIIT has various tie ups with the industry leaders like ICIC Bank, HDFC Banks, Axis Banks, HP, Microsoft, EC Council etc.

Q. What role will Make in India can play in generating jobs and what kind of jobs will be more in demand in the coming years?

A. Make in India' campaign will create lakhs of jobs and give impetus to the growth of the economy. India's journey on the path of economic reforms has transformed it to one of the world's fastest growing economies. Its large and growing population is its best asset and can quadruple GDP and catapult India to the league of developed economies over the next decade. All this, if a billion could be transformed into a productive workforce.

Jobs continue to be created, needing an educated workforce and many in sunrise sub-sectors. There are five existing sectors that are likely to hold us in good stead in the future in terms of employment generation and business growth and they are:- Information Technology, Telecom, Healthcare, Infrastructure and Retail.

For over half a decade now, India has been chanting the demographic mantra with little real progress. Because with opportunities come challenges, the services sector needs many million knowledge workers. India's large labour force has been stubborn in transition with over 90% inadequately trained.

Today, only a small part of retail in India is organized. Despite this, it is estimated that the sector in India is worth more than \$400 billion, with domestic and international players planning to expand across the country. Industry leaders predict that the next phase of growth will emerge from rural markets.

Q. Are you planning to partner with any of the state govt. or Centre for any program?

A. NIIT is entering into various alliances and partnerships from time to time and being a listed company, we announce our tie ups as and when they happen.

Q. What are your other future plans?

A. The future growth strategy has been initiated by the steps taken to achieve Business Transformation, through the three lines of business at NIIT, which include – Skills & Careers Group (SCG), Corporate Learning Group (CLG) and Schools Learning Group (SLG), with the technology enabled shared services platform forming the core.

The focus at SCG has been getting back to profitability, back to growth. It is well aligned to achieve the end objective of attaining sustainable and scalable growth for the company. NIIT.tv and StackRoute are strong first steps by NIIT for the Renewal phase of the three stage Business transformation exercise for its Skills and Careers Business.

The Corporate Learning Group took a step forward from accelerating revenue & profit towards establishing a leadership position in the Corporate Training market. This is being driven by its focus on big ticket annuity deals, product improvement and inorganic growth.

The entire Business transformation process is being driven by the New NIITian, guided by the vision and values of creating a culture of performance excellence.



BusinessLine

NIIT Ltd. Appoints Gavin Dabreo as CEO of its K-12 School Learning Subsidiary – MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL)

November 17, 2015: Business Wire India



NIIT Ltd, a global leader in skills and talent development, announced the appointment of Gavin Dabreo as the CEO of its K-12 school learning subsidiary – MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL).

Earlier during the year, NIIT had hived off its K-12 School Learning business into a Wholly Owned Subsidiary Company called – MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL). This was done with the view of inviting strategic investors and partners, as a separate entity would effectively cater to the independent growth and future expansion plans of the School Learning business.

Taking this vision forward, Gavin Dabreo has joined as the CEO of MLSL to spearhead the growth of NIIT's school learning initiatives.

An MBA from the Manchester Business School, UK, Gavin has an extensive work experience of 25 years across – education, hospitality, telecom and consumer product industries. He began in 1991 in advertising with FCB Ulka in Mumbai. Subsequently, at the Tata Group, Gavin was one of the first few employees of Tata Teleservices. In 2008 he joined Meru Cabs, as one of the founding members of the management committee, helping the team build Meru Cabs into India's largest and favourite taxi company. He was also the CEO of Singapore based, Rumi Education Pvt. Ltd.

Gavin's last stint was as CEO at Varsity Education Management, where he executed one of India's largest digital education program in private schools, established India's first edu-cloud network in partnership with Microsoft Corporation and Agreeya Mobility.

Welcoming Gavin Dabreo as the CEO of NIIT's school learning subsidiary – MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL), Mr. Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd. said, "With the creation of an independent subsidiary in MLSL and with the leadership that will be provided by Gavin, as its CEO, NIIT will unlock the value from its heritage in the school sector. This, together with our stated intent of working with strategic investors and partners, will enable us to position MLSL as a leader in the school learning space."

Speaking on joining MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL) as its CEO, Gavin Dabreo said, "I am pleased to take on this role, and excited about the possibilities that lie in the future. Bringing my experience of the school sector on a platform of a trusted brand like NIIT, I look forward to working with the team and taking MLSL to the next level of growth."

About MindChampion Learning Systems Limited

As NIIT's wholly owned subsidiary for its K-12 school learning initiative – MindChampion Learning Systems Limited (MLSL), is providing technology based learning to around 2,000 private schools across India, reaching out to more than a million students. The futuristic NIIT nGuru range of learning solutions for schools comprises Interactive Classrooms with digital content, technology-driven Math Lab, IT Wizard programs and Quick School – an Education Resource Planning software.

MLSL, builds on the strong lineage of NIIT's School Learning business. Started in 1990, as NIIT's foray into School Learning, the company has provided technology based education to over 17,000 schools in India, Bhutan, South Africa and the Middle East, impacting more than 10 million students.

Visit www.niitnguru.com for more details.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/niit-ltd-appoints-gavin-dabreo-as-ceo-of-its-k12-school-learning-subsidiary-mindchampion-learning-systems-limited-mlsl/article7887300.ece>



Education Insider

NIIT.tv- A disruptive innovation by NIIT receives phenomenal response



• Generates registrations from over 100 countries, within the first month of the launch.

New Delhi: NIIT Ltd., a global leader in skills and talent development, has received an overwhelming response for the beta launch of NIIT.tv. It has witnessed a four-fold increase over the initial limited target of 10,000 registrations that has been achieved without any marketing investment, demonstrating the immense power of the brand NIIT.

NIIT.tv is a democratic digital learning initiative that aims to bring high quality training from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time, place and language of their choice. Students accessing NIIT.tv will be able to access a rich bouquet of high quality, value-added services from NIIT centres in future, e.g. tutoring, professional certification, career counselling, and placement services.

Within the first month of its launch, NIIT.tv registered students from more than 900 cities across India, and over 100 countries. In the initial phase, over 20 skill-based training programs in IT, Banking and Finance, Retail and Management was made available, which was scaled up to more than 50 "live" as well as "on-demand" courses. NIIT.tv in this short start-up period has also registered one of the highest customer engagement on the site, as compared to its Indian and International counterparts.

To further spread the reach of NIIT.tv, the company plans to take the user base to over a million over the next few months, covering every city/town having Internet access in India, and providing over 1000 courses through the platform.

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

NIIT.tv is aligned to the Digital India and Skill India campaigns announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi earlier this year. The initiative, which was launched on October 6, 2015, seeks to offer very scalable yet a highly economical model, thereby enabling much faster achievement of Skill India goals. NIIT is committed to these campaigns and aims to train 10 million students across 16 industry sectors in 5 years.

Speaking on the success so far, Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd., said "The response that NIIT.tv has received from the students across India and overseas is unprecedented, and reiterates our belief that this initiative is a potent technological and pedagogical force multiplier that will help us create skilled workforce across multiple sectors, to cater to the man power requirements of the industry. I am confident that this platform will help NIIT reach the goal of training 10 million students in five years. "

Over the last 34 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committing to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum.

NIIT will also encourage and recognize its students and socially minded citizens who volunteer their personal time and effort to support new learners – especially from the under-privileged sections of society. Through this collaborative effort, the company expects a lot more local language content to become available, which currently is in very short supply.

http://www.educationinsider.net/detail_news.php?id=2698



NIIT offers managed training services to corporates

Indo Asian News Service IANS India Private Limited/Yahoo India News December 3, 2015

Bengaluru, Dec 3 (IANS) Leading IT talent and skills provider NIIT Ltd said on Thursday it would offer managed training services to corporates across the country.

"We have been studying the corporate training outsourcing market in India very closely... corporates in India perceive a growing need for outsourcing corporate training to the experts. NIIT has been a key player in corporate training outsourcing in India," said NIIT CEO Rahul Patwardhan in a statement.

NIIT also announced the appointment of Amit Kaul as the head of its National Business Development, Corporate Learning- India.

Growing at a rate of 15 percent per year, NIIT's global corporate customer base contributes 62 percent of its overall revenue, said the statement.

Its international Corporate Learning Group (CLG) offers managed training services (MTS) to market-leading companies in North America, Europe, Asia, India and Oceania.

NIIT's Indian corporate learning business contributes nearly nine percent of its total global revenues and Cognizant, ICICI, Genpact, Reliance, Vodafone, Maruti-Suzuki and E&Y are some of its many Indian clients, the statement said, adding training modules for Indian clients encompass technology training, sales enablement training, soft skills training and Source-Train-Hire services across sectors.

<https://in.news.yahoo.com/niit-offers-managed-training-services-corporates-170804615--finance.html>

Business Standard

NIIT IFBI announces launch of 'FinVantage'

ANI | New Delhi December 15, 2015 Last Updated at 16:24 IST

NIIT Institute for Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI) today announced the launch of 'FinVantage', a two-month certificate program in Global Finance and Accounting.

FinVantage, a comprehensive fast track training program in Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable, aims to provide skilled talent for the BPM industry all across India by identifying and equipping the students with necessary skills for higher productivity and performance.

Students will learn about international accounting standards, processes and terminologies and become competent in skills required for a career in Global Finance and Accounting. Certificate Program in Global Finance and Accounting is an industry recognized program aligned to the Transactional F and A QP of NASSCOM.

Over the last year NIIT IFBI has trained over 400 candidates in Finance and Accounting roles in BPM Industry. NIIT will leverage existing relationships with leading corporate for the same.

Speaking on the launch, IFBI president Bimal Jain said, "This is an era of globalization and we have been witnessing a growing demand for finance and accounting professionals trained as per international standards. Indian companies prefer to recruit those candidates who have an expertise in these international standards apart from their normal specialization in finance and accounting."

"We have therefore designed an exclusive 'Certificate Program in Global Finance and Accounting' to offer training as per international standards. The objective of this program is to create a sustainable, high-quality, cost-effective model to deliver trained resources for F&A and to build a talent pool for the BFSI and BPM industry," added Jain.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/niit-ifbi-announces-launchof-finvantage-115121500652_1.html



NIIT announces short-term programme in finance and accounting

DEC 15, 2015 18:42

Commerce graduates with minimum 50 per cent marks can apply

NIIT Institute for Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI) has launched a two-month certificate programme in Global Finance and Accounting: FinVantage. The comprehensive fast track training programme aims to provide skilled talent for the BPM industry all across India by equipping students with necessary skills for higher productivity and performance.

Students will learn about international accounting standards, processes and terminologies and become competent in skills required for a career in Global Finance and Accounting. The Programme is an industry recognised programme aligned to the Transactional F&A QP of NASSCOM.

After successful completion of the programme candidates will be awarded with a certificate and 100 per cent placement assistance.

Commerce graduates with minimum 50 per cent marks can apply for this programme. Also, candidates should have basic understanding of accounting, and should possess good communication skill.

<http://www.bloncampus.com/b-school-corner/niit-announces-shortterm-programme-infinance-and-accounting/article7992306.ece>

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

NIIT expands Europe presence with Norway office

ET Bureau Dec 18, 2015, 12:37PM IST

NEW DELHI: NIIT which offers learning management and training delivery solutions to corporations has announced the establishment of a new facility in Bergen, Norway to expand near-shore multi-lingual delivery capability and further invest in the growth of its business in Europe.

With the establishment of this office, the company will be able to work more closely with its Scandinavian customers with onsite administrative support and real-time delivery.

Devenderjit Chadha, senior VP learning delivery at NIIT said, "As a national center for higher education and finance, Bergen is a city of choice for us."

NIIT's Corporate Learning Group (CLG) offers Managed Training Services (MTS) to market-leading companies in North America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania.

It now has three established centers in Europe - Dublin, Bergen, and London with a diverse mix of pan-European staff from the UK, Ireland, Norway, the Netherlands, Romania, and Germany. NIIT provides localisation and multi-lingual delivery capability in 25 languages including major European languages like French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Italian, Dutch, Norwegian and Russian.

NIIT's European workforce is comprised of experienced and expert instructional design professionals, instructors with specialized and domain-specific skillsets, learning administrators, learning technology professionals, consultants, and strategic sourcing experts.

In Europe, it has about 30 clients, 13 of whom are part of the Fortune Global 500 list. NIIT's new European facilities have been jump started with an order book from these existing clients in the oil and gas, energy, financial services, pharmaceutical, technology, telecom, logistics, and life sciences sectors.

Rahul Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT added that the company is looking at being 'glocal', and leveraging local capability and blending it with offshore capability in the right mix to ensure superior services.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/niit-expands-europepresence-with-norway-office/articleshow/50230106.cms>



moneycontrol

NIIT to set up office in Norway to expand European presence

18 Dec 2015 03:11 PM



It what would help bolster its presence in Europe, NIIT has decided to set up an office in Norway.

Of the 63 percent revenue from its overseas operations, NIIT earns 30 percent of revenue from the European markets and therefore, it is critical to have the required capability to service customers there, says the company's CEO, Rahul Patwardhan.

"Our focus in our western markets is on large Fortune 500 and Fortune 1000 businesses which are mainly headquartered in the Scandinavian region. So it is important that we have capability to service them culturally, linguistically and in a proximate way", Patwardhan told CNBC-TV18.

It is especially critical since we deal in training and content development where lot of people- related interaction happen, he adds.

Below is the transcript of Rahul Patwardhan's interview with CNBC-TV18's Mangalam Maloo and Ekta Batra.

Ekta: We do understand that you all are expanding your Europe presence by opening an office in Norway. Can you just tell us what this means for the company, how much already comes from the Scandinavian region, how much do you expect to grow your revenues by with this new office open?

A: About 63 percent of our revenue globally is from our overseas operation that is non-India business and if you were to split that the European market would be little less than 30 percent but the European market place is huge. Our focus on our western markets is on very large Fortune 500, Fortune 1000 profile companies. Many of them are headquartered in the Scandinavian region and therefore it is very important for us to have a capability to service them culturally, linguistically and in proximate way specially given the nature of our business which deals with training and content development and training administration where a lot of people related interactions happen.

So, what we have been trying to build with over the last year with Irishoffice and now with Norwegian office is starting to build a true multilingual, glocal capability to service the European multinational much better than we were able to do in the last few years and that is beginning to give us good traction in terms of the confidence that the discerning European customer has in being serviced by a company out of India but with a very substantial local presence in terms of these capabilities.

http://m.moneycontrol.com/news/business/niit-to-setofficenorway-to-expand-europeanpresence_4641981.html



THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT, unveils CBSE board exam preparatory classes for free

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT, today announced a significant initiative to help school students succeed in their Class 10th & 12th CBSE board exams.

By: Business Wire India | December 10, 2015 4:27 PM

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT, today announced a significant initiative to help school students succeed in their Class 10th & 12th CBSE board exams. Titled, Board Exam Preparatory Classes, these Fast Track Refresher Courses are designed to help prepare students score higher grades in their CBSE Board exams. The courses will be made available on www.niit.tv for free from 10th December onwards.

NIIT Ltd., a global leader in skills and talent development, launched NIIT.tv in October this year as a significant digital learning initiative to bring skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice.

This initiative from NIIT.tv, extends the unique technological platform to enable students get that extra confidence boost to excel in their board exams. A carefully curated program will be delivered live by expert teachers on NIIT.tv. Every care has been taken to not overload students, but instead help them recap and refresh what they have learnt while addressing doubts that remain. In fact special sessions dedicated to only clearing doubts have also been planned. The students will also be able to view their sessions on demand as per their convenience. Two rounds of mock exams will also be organized on the NIIT.tv platform in the months of January and February 2016.

Preparatory classes on NIIT.tv are scheduled for Maths, Science, and English for Class 10th; Maths, Physics, Chemistry for Class 12th Science Stream and Accounting, Economics, Business Studies for Class 12th Commerce Stream. Live sessions will be held between 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every day. Sessions will be conducted over the Synchronous Learning Technology platform from NIIT.tv studios.

Speaking on the launch of Board Exam preparatory classes from NIIT.tv, Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd., said, "Technology can play a key role in making quality education and learning available to millions of students across the country. Through this initiative NIIT.tv will create a more level playing field for school students preparing for their board exams across the country. We hope that a large number of students will take advantage of this breakthrough offering from NIIT."

Board Exam Preparatory Classes from NIIT.tv offers a very structured approach to preparation for the boards. These preparatory classes are based on the CBSE Exam pattern and focus on how to perform well in the exams and improve grades. The objective is not to teach them the full syllabus but prepare them to face the exam well through these classes.

Over the last 34 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committing to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum.

NIIT will also encourage and recognize its students and socially minded citizens who volunteer their personal time and effort to support new learners – especially from the under-privileged sections of society. Through this collaborative effort, the company expects a lot more local language content to become available, which currently is in very short supply.

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/jobs/niit-tv-a-disruptive-innovation-by-niit-unveils-cbse-board-exam-preparatory-classes-for-free-2/177064/>



NIIT.tv - a Disruptive Innovation by NIIT, Unveils CBSE Board Exam Preparatory Classes for Free

Business Wire | Mumbai | December 10, 2015 12:35 IST

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT, today announced a significant initiative to help school students succeed in their Class 10th & 12th CBSE board exams. Titled, Board Exam Preparatory Classes, these Fast Track Refresher Courses are designed to help prepare students score higher grades in their CBSE Board exams. The courses will be made available on www.niit.tv for free from 10th December onwards.

NIIT Ltd., a global leader in skills and talent development, launched NIIT.tv in October this year as a significant digital learning initiative to bring skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice.....>>

http://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-business-wire-advertising/niit-tv-adisruptive-innovation-by-niit-unveils-cbse-board-exam-preparatory-classes-for-free-115121000356_1.html



NIIT, Hewlett-Packard to Offer Software Testing Course

NDTV | Last Updated: December 08, 2015 17:13 (IST)



NIIT Ltd and HP (Hewlett-Packard) have entered into a strategic partnership to offer post graduate certificate program in software testing. The program will enable learners to apply key testing skills and practices using HP Tools, NIIT said in a statement.

NIIT, citing IT industry body Nasscom's forecasts, said the software testing outsourcing market is expected to grow from \$30 billion in 2010 to \$50 billion in 2020 worldwide.

Engineering graduates from IT, BCA, BSC background with minimum 50 per cent marks in their bachelors can apply for this course, NIIT said. The first batch commences from 21st December, 2015. After successful completion of the program students will be awarded with a joint certificate from HP and NIIT.

Shivan Bhargava, group president of skills and careers group at NIIT, said, "With the global software testing market witnessing a robust growth at a CAGR of 11 per cent over the period 2013-2018, we have observed a growing demand for software testing professionals in India. As per Nasscom, the Indian software testing market is expected to grow to \$15 billion by 2020."

Ranjit Menon, director for Asia Pacific & Japan at HPE Software Education Services, said, " We perceive a huge demand for skills in the software application testing and Big Data space."

<http://profit.ndtv.com/news/budget-tech-media-telecom/article-niit-hewlett-packard-to-offer-software-testing-course-1252473>



The Telegraph

Press Releases

NIIT Successfully Completes "Chiphen Rigpel" Project in Bhutan - An ambitious 5 Year Long Transformational Project Impacting over 2,00,000 Bhutanese

TIMPHU, BHUTAN AND NEW DELHI, DELHI, INDIA

Business Wire India

Chiphen Rigpel - an ambitious human capacity building project, implemented by NIIT, a **global leader in skills and talent development** and launched by The Royal Government of Bhutan in partnership with Government of India, has successfully completed 5 years after it was initiated on April 30, 2010 on the sidelines of the SAARC summit held in Bhutan. This Govt. of India assisted project was designed to empower the people of Bhutan to transition into a modern Knowledge Society.

NIIT's impeccable execution of this project over the last 5 years and the successful completion on time and within budget and to the fullest satisfaction of the varied groups of learners was very well appreciated by all the stakeholders present at the Closing Ceremony held at Thimphu, Bhutan.

Speaking on the occasion, **the Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Shri Gautam Bambawale**, said **"The Chiphen Rigpel project has been superbly implemented by NIIT and I would like to say that they have stood up to their reputation and they have lived up to the expectations of the Government of India, and I hope also the expectations of the Royal Government of Bhutan and more importantly the people of Bhutan."**

As part of the Chiphen Rigpel project, NIIT has imparted ICT skills to over 1,25,000 learners and in turn touched the lives of more than 30% of Bhutan's population. Nowhere in the world has a project had such a widespread impact across a large cross-section of a country's population. This project was bold in its envisioning and meticulous in its implementation. The project has six components that include - enabling e-governance, empowering teachers and taking ICT to schools, enabling employability, furnishing tertiary institutes with ICT training centres, reaching the unreached all over the nation, and managing e-waste. Chiphen Rigpel reaches out to all sections of Bhutanese society including national leaders, civil servants, local government, teachers, school children, youth, underprivileged children and the monastic body.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd**, said, **"We started this prestigious project in 2010 with an aim of enabling Bhutan to transform into a knowledge society. We have used every capability that we have built at NIIT over the last 30 years of operating at a global level in the Educational Technology & Talent Development space in this project. Today after 5 years we can proudly say that we have successfully enabled Bhutan to achieve the objectives of this project & build a strong foundation for its continuing journey towards empowering citizens through ICT and building a knowledge society."**

Chiphen Rigpel project has not only successfully achieved the targets that were set, but has also exceeded them in some areas. NIIT imparted computer education & computer aided education services to 168 Government Higher Secondary Schools covering classes 7 to 12. It provided 5,204 certifications to the teachers thus enabling them to use ICT tools in the teaching - learning process to enhance their effectiveness. NIIT provided e-governance literacy to 7396 government Leaders, civil servants, officials, managers and executives. Under the project NIIT set up 16 training facilities to provide high-end IT training, vocational IT training, basic IT literacy and provide 20,541 certifications.

In his keynote address while declaring the successful completion of this project, **Lynpo D N Dhungyel, Minister of Information & Communications, Royal Government of Bhutan**, said **"On behalf of the Royal Government of Bhutan I extend my gratitude to the Government of India for supporting this project and entrusting it to NIIT. The level of commitment shown by NIIT officials and their team, and the enthusiastic participation of all stakeholders shown during the implementation of this project has been evident throughout these 5 years of the project duration. It is a true reflection of the warmth and co-operative spirit between the people of India and Bhutan."**

The project bridged the rural - urban digital divide and provided access to education for remote and rural citizens. NIIT set up 131 Playground Learning Stations (PLS) as part of Community Centres bringing the rural population into the ICT fold. Awareness for e-waste management has been created along with formulation of a strategy for further implementation. Also training programs conducted for the Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications, National Environment Council, Municipalities and Local Government.

<http://www.telegraphindia.com/external/display.jsp?mode=details&id=46708#.VoudshV97IU>



NIIT and HP to offer software testing programmes to students

2015 Dec 7, 3:27 pm



New Delhi, Dec 7 (ANI): NIIT, a global leader in skills and talent development and HP, leader in the software testing domain, today entered into a strategic partnership to offer 'Post Graduate Certificate Program' in software testing. The program will enable learners to apply key testing skills and practices using HP tools.

Today, businesses run on software and are severely impacted when software applications malfunction. Software applications, particularly those on the cloud, often serve millions of end-users.

High availability and bug-free software applications are crucial to ensure customer satisfaction. Thus, software testing is vital to ensure the quality of a software application before it is deployed in a data centre or released to customers.

According to NASSCOM, the software testing outsourcing market is expected to grow from USD 30 billion in 2010 to USD 50 billion in 2020 worldwide and India is expected to be the biggest beneficiary. Further as per Gartner and IDC, there has been a steep rise in organizations practicing mobile, testing from 31 percent in 2012 to 95 percent in 2015.

Speaking on the launch Shivan Bhargava, Group President, Skills and Careers Group, NIIT Ltd said, "At NIIT we have always believed in offering programs customized to the evolving needs of the industry. With the global software testing market witnessing a robust growth at a CAGR of 11 percent over the period 2013-2018, we have observed a growing demand for software testing professionals in India."

As per NASSCOM, the Indian software testing market is expected to grow to USD 15 billion by 2020. Taking cognizance of the opportunity in this space, we have entered into a partnership with the global leader HP to create a pool of world-class software testers in India.

This partnership provides us an opportunity to extend our expertise to enable students to excel in the software testing domain, thereby giving a much needed impetus to the sector.

Ranjit Menon, Director, Asia Pacific and Japan, HPE Software Education Services said, "At HP we provide the technology that not only reduces dependency on skills but also build-up more skill in the market to use that technology itself."

"We perceive a huge demand for skills in the Software Application Testing and Big Data space. We are excited to partner with NIIT to create a pool of programmers to address the changing technology needs in the space," added Menon.

Engineering graduates from IT, BCA, BSC background with minimum 50 percent marks in their bachelors can apply for this course. Applicants should be proficient in English, should know at least one programming language and should be able to work in Windows environment.

The first batch commences from 21st December, 2015. After successful completion of the program students will be awarded with a joint certificate from HP and NIIT.

During the program, students will have access to expert faculty trained by HP and will be groomed to handle the interview sessions as well. Placement assistance will also be made available to students. The program will offer a blended module using ILT, virtual and online learning using cloud campus. (ANI)

<http://www.aninews.in/newsdetail3/story243630/niit-and-hp-to-offer-software-testing-programmes-to-students.html>



BW BUSINESSWORLD

MetaScale, NIIT Come Together To Support India's Analytics Needs

MetaScale has announced the immediate availability of Hadoop Training course in India through partnership with NIIT

December 2015 by Arshad Khan



US-based Big Data solutions provider MetaScale on Friday (04 December,) announced the immediate availability of Hadoop Training course in India through partnership with NIIT.

"Indian companies and global organizations with a presence, or considering a presence in India are experiencing Big Data skills shortage," said Ankur Gupta, CEO, MetaScale.

"By partnering with NIIT, we are providing IT professionals with an avenue for quickly gaining production-level skills for developing solutions within the Hadoop ecosystem - filling an exploding need for such skills throughout India " he added.

"Hadoop is used by many organizations to build robust applications for processing Big Data. Therefore, a global leader in talent development NIIT has joined hands with the thought leader in Big Data, MetaScale to offer cutting-edge training course to create a manpower pool for the industry," the company said in a statement.

Hadoop is an open-source framework that allows to store and process big data in a distributed environment across clusters of computers using simple programming models.

The partnership addresses a recognized need in the market for Big Data training program that combines solid fundamentals of Hadoop, which is fast becoming an industry standard analytics platform.

Nasscom has pegged the domestic Big Data market to be at USD 163 million, expected to double in size and reach USD 375 million by 2018. The chamber body had already indicated the demand for 2.5 lakh analytics professionals by the end of 2015.

Shivan Bhargava, Group President- Skills and Careers Group, NIIT Ltd, said through this partnership we aim to play a key role in supporting the analytical needs of the developed markets. We are pleased to work alongside MetaScale to launch Hadoop mapped to the wave of Big Data environment".

<http://www.businessworld.in/article/MetaScale-NIIT-Come-Together-To-Support-India-s-Analytics-Needs/04-12-2015-88993/>



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
India's Premier News Agency

NIIT to Conduct India's Largest National Industry Targeted Aptitude Test (NITAT) on 13th February, 2016

New Delhi, Delhi, India - Business Wire India

- 12th edition of NITAT opens avenues for aspiring careers in IT, Banking and Finance.
- More than 1 Million students benefitted over the past 10 years.

NIIT Limited, a global leader in skills and talent development, today announced country's largest Aptitude Test - the 12th National Industry Targeted Aptitude Test (NITAT) — to enable students and graduates to access their potential and aptitude for careers across multiple sectors. 'NITAT 2016', will be simultaneously conducted by NIIT, in over 150 cities nationwide, on 13th February 2016.

Graduates as well as undergraduates of all streams can apply for this test. Students can learn about the benefits of appearing in the 12th NITAT and can register online by logging on to <http://www.nitcloudcampus.com/nitat2016/> or by visiting the nearest NIIT centre. Over the past 10 years, NITAT has reached out to more than 1 Million students with new-age career options.

According to a new survey by MyHiringClub.com, a recruitment platform, most employers are optimistic about their hiring plans in 2016. The survey covered 5,480 companies across 12 industry sectors in 21 major cities. The latest TimesJobs.com Job Outlook 2016 survey of over 1,614 employers across India also shows positive hiring plans by nearly 60 % of the surveyed organisations. The survey covered over 1,614 employers across India.

NITAT aims to assess skills of students for multiple career domains. The test has been designed as an objective test of reasoning, comprehension, data interpretation skills and behavioural traits. Every student will receive a personalised score card that will give his/her Aptitude Ranking (concentric graphical form) on National and Zonal basis. NIIT will also award up to 25% scholarship to the meritorious students.

Flagging off NITAT 2016 nationally, Shivan Bhargava, Group President, Skills and Careers Group, NIIT Ltd. said, "We commenced NITAT 11 years ago with an aim to recognize skilled manpower to meet the demands of the IT industry. Today NITAT has evolved from being just an I.T. aptitude test to the one that assesses student's career readiness quotient across multiple domains like IT, Banking and Finance. We exhort students and graduate to come forward and take the test and assess their capabilities for future. National Industry Targeted Aptitude Test is beneficial for both students seeking to identify their aptitude and the industry which is in the lookout for right talent".

Students who appear for NITAT will receive an assessment score card & personalized career counselling from NIIT. They will also be entitled to complementary job fair passes. NIIT's program proposition will be highlighted during counselling and scholarships will be awarded to merit holders, along with a congratulatory letter from NIIT MindChampion Viswanathan Anand.

NIIT's pioneering initiative NITAT was introduced in 2004 to enable graduates and students pursuing their studies in engineering, arts, commerce and science streams to gauge their aptitude for a career in the IT sector, identify skills further required, if any, and thus systematically charter their career into the IT industry. The test is designed scientifically to assess students and provide a relative ranking system, which helps them to identify their position amongst all test takers.

http://www.ptinews.com/pressrelease/16818_press-subNIIT-to-Conduct-India-s-Largest-National-Industry-Targeted-Aptitude-Test-NITAT-on-13th-February-2016



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
India's Premier News Agency

NIIT.tv- a Disruptive Innovation by NIIT, Celebrates 100 Days of Empowering Learners Globally

New Delhi, Delhi, India - Business Wire India

- Enters into a strategic partnership with Tutorialspoint.com to mark this momentous milestone
- Tie-up to provide high quality educational videos and tutorials to an established base of 1 million users every month, across 140 countries, for free

NIIT.tv – a disruptive innovation by NIIT has completed 100 days of launch with an overwhelming response. Within this short period of its inception, NIIT.tv has registered students from more than 1500 cities, and over 140 countries. In the initial phase, over 20 skill-based training programs in IT, Banking and Finance, Retail and Management was made available, which was scaled up to more than 1000 "live" as well as "on-demand" courses. Within this short period, NIIT.tv has also registered one of the highest customer engagement on the site, as compared to its Indian and International counterparts. The recent launch of Free CBSE Board Exam preparatory live classes for 10th and 12th standard students has been highly appreciated by the users.

NIIT.tv is a democratic digital learning initiative, backed by NIIT's strong Educational Technology framework, with an aim to bring high quality training from its classrooms to every digitally connected learner, for free, at any time, place and language of their choice. Students accessing NIIT.tv will be able to access a rich bouquet of high quality, value-added services from NIIT centres in future, e.g. training, professional certification, career counselling, and placement services.

As part of its overall plan to partner with other players and create a 360 degree eco-system, NIIT.tv and Tutorialspoint.com, today entered into a strategic partnership to provide additional value to their respective end users with added quality content. Through this partnership the users of NIIT.tv and Tutorialspoint.com can access the content of both the sites. Tutorialspoint.com provides purely text based content and a Coding ground to practice & hone programming skills, while NIIT.tv offers Video based courses. Between NIIT and Tutorialspoint.com, learners get a complete multi-modal learning experience FREE - combining tutorials, videos, live synchronous classes, e-books, interactivity, discussion forums, assessment, etc., making the combined ecosystem the richest and widest and deepest IT learning environment. The two learning destinations will enable a more seamless experience for their respective users in their pursuit to find learning material for almost every single IT area currently in demand.

The NIIT.tv beta program has progressed well. Based on feedback from learners and the growth of courses, the course catalog has been enhanced, an intuitive learning dashboard has been introduced, and the proven cloud courseware system from NIIT's Cloud Campus has been integrated into NIIT.tv. Also the NIIT.tv Android app is now available on the Google Play Store for free download. A course configurator has also been created to enable independent authors & subject matter experts to offer their courses on NIIT.tv. The relationship with Tutorialspoint.com, which has an established base of over 1 million users per month, will increase the spread of NIIT.tv, and give impetus to its plan of covering every city/town having Internet access in India, and providing over 1500 courses through the platform.

Commenting on the first 100 days of successful operations of NIIT.tv, Mr. Rahul K Patwardhan, CEO, NIIT Ltd. said, "The success of NIIT.tv is a strong reaffirmation of our belief that Technology is fundamental to our growth. The company today, works on a blended delivery and has over 200 engineers working on education-technology – making NIIT, the largest EdTech company in the country".

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd., said, "We launched NIIT.tv with an aim to make available cutting-edge skill based training to every digitally connected citizen of India, by removing the four constraints of time, space, language and money. Through this partnership with Tutorialspoint.com, we hope to provide our users with more options and content thus providing high quality training material to every digitally connected Indian for free."

NIIT.tv is aligned to the Digital India and Skill India campaigns announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi earlier this year. The initiative, which was launched on October 6, 2015, seeks to offer very scalable yet a highly economical , thereby enabling much faster achievement of Skill India goals.

Mr. Mohammad Mohtashim, Managing Director, Tutorialspoint India Pvt Ltd, said, "NIIT.tv has generated huge response within the first 100 days of its launch and we are glad to come together and provide additional value to our respective users. With nearly 1 million viewership per month, Tutorialspoint.com provides online learning experience in simple and easy steps and this partnership will further enhance the content and provide users with more options to choose from."

Over the last 34 years NIIT has contributed extensively to the IT sector by training 35 million people in IT and other disciplines. As a socially responsible corporate citizen, NIIT with the launch of NIIT.tv is now committing to extend that experience and expertise to service the needs of India in many other sectors, across the entire social spectrum.

NIIT will also encourage and recognize its students and socially minded citizens who volunteer their personal time and effort to support new learners – especially from the under-privileged sections of society. Through this collaborative effort, the company expects a lot more local language content to become available, which currently is in very short supply.

http://www.ptinews.com/pressrelease/16795_press-subNIIT-tv-a-Disruptive-Innovation-by-NIIT-Celebrates-100-Days-of-Empowering-Learners-Globally



NIIT Q3 net profit up seven-fold at Rs 13.7 crore

By PTI | 20 Jan, 2016, 03:29PM IST

NEW DELHI: Skills and talent development firm NIIT today reported over seven-fold jump in its consolidated net profit at Rs 13.7 crore for the December quarter on the back of a strong turnaround post restructuring.

The company's net profit stood at Rs 1.8 crore for the quarter ended December 31, 2014.

The revenue grew 6 per cent to Rs 262.3 crore in the said quarter from Rs 248.2 crore in the year-ago period.

"Our Global Corporate Training Outsourcing is growing steadily. Our Skills and Careers Business Transformation programme is also continuing to deliver improved outcomes, leading to NIIT's overall year-on-year revenue growth rate consistently improving for the third successive quarter," NIIT Chief Executive Rahul Patwardhan told reporters here.

He added the Corporate Learning group grew 17 per cent YoY, contributing 60 per cent to NIIT revenue. The group recorded net revenues of Rs 158.6 crore during the quarter.

It added one new managed training services (MTS) customer in the reported quarter, taking the total number of customers to 27, with a revenue visibility of USD 195 million for CLG.

"Also, 70 per cent of the company's revenues come from international markets. China, Nigeria and Indonesia are our top markets," Patwardhan said.

In order to power the growth of the Managed Training Services business in the Indian market, NIIT has appointed Amit Kaul as National Business Development Head, Corporate Learning - India during the quarter.

At the end of the quarter, NIIT had about 6,000 employees.

Skills and Careers Group (SNC) recorded a net revenue of Rs 82.8 crore during the third quarter, up 3 per cent YoY. It contributed 32 per cent to NIIT revenue in the said quarter.

MindChampion Learning Systems Limited registered a net revenue of Rs 20.9 crore during the quarter.

NIIT hived off its K-12 School Learning business into a wholly-owned subsidiary called - MindChampion Learning Systems Limited and appointed Gavin Dabreo as the CEO.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/earnings/niit-q3-net-profit-up-seven-fold-at-rs-13-7-crore/articleshow/50653562.cms>

BusinessLine

NIIT Limited announces Q3 (Oct - Dec 2015) consolidated results

January 20, 2016: Business Wire India

NIIT records Net Revenue at Rs. 262.3 Cr, up 6% YoY and PAT of Rs. 13.7 Cr; Share of international revenue at 70%

Corporate Learning Group grows 17% YoY; contributes 60% to NIIT revenue

Expands Europe operations; commissions new facilities in Norway & Ireland

Skills & Careers Group grows 3% YoY; contributes 32% to NIIT revenue

Launches 'FinVantage' and enters into strategic partnership with HP and Metascale

Strengthens leadership with senior level appointments - Gavin Dabreo joins as CEO of NIIT's K-12 school learning subsidiary, MindChampion Learning Systems Limited; Amit Kaul joins to spearhead the growth of Managed Training services business in India.

NIIT Limited Q3 (Oct - Dec 2015) Consolidated Financials at a Glance (in Rs. Cr)			
	Qtr ended Dec 31, 2014	Qtr ended Dec 31, 2015	Growth YoY
Net Revenue	248.2	262.3	6%
EBITDA	5.7	16.4	185%
Profit After Tax	1.8	13.7	+11.9 Cr



NIIT Limited, a global leader in skills and talent development, today reported its results for the third quarter ending December 31, 2015. In this quarter, the company recorded Net Revenue of Rs. 262.3 Cr, up 6% YoY with a PAT of Rs. 13.7Cr, up Rs. 11.9 Cr YoY. EBITDA for the quarter was recorded at Rs. 16.4 Cr, up 185% YoY.

The results were taken on record at the meeting of the Board of Directors here today.

Speaking on the company's performance during the quarter, Mr. Rahul Patwardhan, Chief Executive Officer, NIIT Limited said, "Global Corporate Training Outsourcing is growing steadily. While we further strengthened our Corporate Learning Business operations in US and Europe during the quarter, NIIT is now positioned to leverage emerging CLG opportunities back home in India, as we perceive a huge potential for industry-aligned, globally benchmarked corporate learning solutions from leading corporates in the country. Our Skills & Careers Business Transformation program is also continuing to deliver improved outcomes, leading to NIIT's overall YoY revenue growth rate consistently improving for the third successive quarter."

Corporate Learning Group (CLG) which offers Managed Training Services (MTS) to market-leading companies in North America, Europe, Asia, and Oceania, recorded net revenues of Rs. 158.6 Cr during the quarter, up 17% over same period of the previous year. It added one new MTS customer in Q3, taking the total number of customers to 27, with a Revenue Visibility of USD 195 Mn for CLG.

Further, strengthening operations in key international markets including Europe and North America, NIIT announced the establishment of a new facility in Bergen, Norway to expand near-shore multi-lingual delivery capability and further invest in the rapid growth of its business in Europe. NIIT now has three established centers in Europe – Dublin, Bergen, and London with a diverse mix of pan-European staff from the UK, Ireland, Norway, the Netherlands, Romania, and Germany.

In order to power the growth of the Managed Training Services business in the Indian market, NIIT appointed Amit Kaul as National Business Development Head, Corporate Learning – India during the quarter.

Mr. Sapnesh Lalla, Group President, Corporate Learning Group, NIIT Limited said, "Reaffirming customer confidence, Corporate Learning business recorded a 12% YoY increase in order intake at USD 27 Mn and registered a revenue growth of 15% YoY in constant currency. Our deal pipeline has grown significantly in the quarter."

During the quarter, NIIT unveiled NIIT.tv - a disruptive innovation aimed at radically changing the skilling landscape. NIIT.tv is a digital learning initiative that brings skilling from NIIT classrooms to every digitally connected Indian, for free, at any time and place of their choice. NIIT.tv further extended its unique technological platform to help school students succeed in their Class 10th & 12th CBSE board exams and unveiled CBSE Board Exam Preparatory Classes for free. Recently NIIT.tv also entered into a strategic partnership with Tutorialspoint.com to provide high quality educational videos and tutorials to an established base of 1 Million users every month, across 140 countries.

Commenting on Technology transformation powered by the 200 people strong EduTech team at NIIT, Mr. Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Limited said, "NIIT is actively involved in offering technologically advanced learning products to its customers. The phenomenal response to the launch of StackRouteTM and NIIT.tv signals the emergence of NIIT as India's strongest and largest 'EduTech' company".

Skills and Careers Group (SNC) recorded a net revenue of Rs. 82.8 Cr during Q3, up 3% YoY with an EBITDA Margin at 1% up 1396 bps YoY. Backed by accelerated Business Transformation phases of Re-energization and Renewal, SNC continued to deliver strong improvement, with the third continuous quarter of acceleration in YoY Revenue growth.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Shivan Bhargava, Group President, Skills & Careers Group, NIIT Limited said, "Beyond-IT revenue share was recorded at 38% of SNC revenues in the third quarter. During the quarter, NIIT strengthened its portfolio through strategic alliances with companies like HP and MetaScale, enabling us to strengthen our offerings in new-age IT & Big Data."

During the quarter, StackRouteTM, a pioneering initiative to create Full-stack programmers for the start-up industry, received overwhelming response from start-ups and IT companies alike, leading to over-subscription of multiple batches. StackRouteTM creates multi-skilled and multi-disciplinary programmers who can become key members of high-performance teams in top notch product engineering companies, start-ups, and IT firms. StackRouteTM has strong acceptance as a strategic program to help IT majors transform their workforce to be become Digital-Skills ready.

NIIT and HP entered into a strategic partnership to offer Post Graduate Certificate Program in Software Testing. The program will enable learners to apply key testing skills and practices using HP Tools. Further, MetaScale and NIIT came together to support India's analytics needs. The partnership recognized the need in the market for Big Data training programs that combines solid fundamentals of Hadoop, which is fast becoming an industry standard analytics platform, with rigorously tested and proven techniques for leveraging large data sets, streaming data and the Internet of Things to solve real business problems.

NIIT Institute for Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI), India's largest Banking training institute, announced the launch of a two-month Certificate Program in Global Finance and Accounting: 'FinVantage' - a comprehensive fast track training program in Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable.

NIIT IFBI launched the 1st batch for Certificate Program in Banking Sales and Marketing (CPBSM) in association with Catholic Syrian Bank (CSB). CPBSM is an exclusive program that aims to build a pool of probationary officers with marketing skills.

MindChampion Learning Systems Limited registered net revenue of Rs. 20.9 Cr during the quarter.

NIIT hived off its K-12 School Learning business into a Wholly Owned Subsidiary Company called - MindChampion Learning Systems Limited and appointed Mr. Gavin Dabreo as the CEO. This was done with the view of inviting strategic investors and partners, as a separate entity would effectively cater to the independent growth and future expansion plans of the School Learning business.

During the quarter, Five-time World Champion and NIIT MindChampion Viswanathan Anand unveiled NIIT Nguru MathLab@Class, a unique technology enabled learning solution for schools in Madurai. Further Anand also launched the state-of-the-art NIIT Nguru MathLab Plus in Hyderabad. MathLab is an in-depth program inculcating mathematical aptitude, skill building and logical thinking amongst students.

Other Highlights

NIIT named as the 'Most Respected Education Company', by Businessworld magazine

NIIT named to TrainingIndustry.com's Top 20 Gamification Companies List

NIIT receives 'Franchisor of the Year Award' - under the category Vocational & Skill Development Training Institute at Franchise India Awards 2015

NIIT named to TrainingIndustry.com's Top 20 IT Training Companies List

During the quarter, NIIT successfully completed implementation of the "Chiphen Riggel" project in Bhutan, launched by The Royal Government of Bhutan in partnership with Government of India. Through this project NIIT impacted 2, 00, 000 Bhutanese citizens and helped Bhutan transition into a modern Knowledge Society.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/business-wire/niit-limited-announces-q3-oct-dec-2015-consolidated-results/article8129912.ece>



#EdTech. The future is here

<https://twitter.com/NIITLtd>

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 7 Dec 2015
Avant-garde prog will create programmers to deliver innovatve & high quality softwre prodcts
niit.com/india/training...
 ↳ NASSCOM, Shbargava, DeitY and 3 others

NIIT and HP enter into a strategic partnership to offer Post Graduate Certificate Program in Software Testing.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 10 Dec 2015
These classes are fast track refresher courses designed to help students score high grades in CBSE Boards.
#EdTech
 ↳ Digital India, ICSE.com and Skill India

NIIT TV launches Unique fast track refresher program for 10th & 12th standard students (CBSE BOARD). CLASSES STARTING FROM 10th DECEMBER, 2015. LIVE & ON DEMAND ONLINE COURSES FROM NIIT. AVAILABLE NOW FOR FREE.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 11 Dec 2015
On this special day, NIIT family wishes the Indian Chess Grandmaster happiness & success for many more years to come
 ↳ Viswanathan Anand, Rahul Patwardhan Pat, Vijay Thadani and 2 others

The NIIT family wishes the 4th World Chess Champion **Viswanathan Anand** Many Happy Returns of the Day.

Proud to have Vishy as NIIT MiniChampion for more than 15 years.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 15 Dec 2015
This certificate program aims to provide skilled talent for BPM industry all across India.
niit.com/india/training...
 ↳ Skill India, Skill India, Cti and 3 others

NIIT IFBI announces the launch of 'FinVantage' - a Certificate Program in Global Finance and Accounting.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 5 Dec 2015
India's share in the global outsourcing market can be increased through the following:
@EY_India @MSDESkillIndia

India's current share in the global outsourcing market is around 37%, amounting to US\$ 18 billion. Innovative BPO/KPO delivery models, coupled with a readily employable workforce, could help India increase its global share.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 23 Dec 2015
This holistic solution brings key elements needed by teachers & students for learning Math.
niit.com/india/training...
 ↳ NIITNgru, Viswanathan Anand and Aravind sathasivam

The aim of the solution is to create a lab-like environment in the classroom for every Math Session, without having the students to leave their classes and hence the name MathLab@Class.



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NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 24 Dec 2015
Lynpo D N Dhungyel, Minister of Information & Communications, Royal Govt of Bhutan declares completion of this project

CLOSING CEREMONY OF CHIPHEN RIGPEL

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 26 Dec 2015
Rise in Indian retail market will lead to a rise in no.of jobs created,thus increasing need for skilled workforce.
 ↳ Skill India, RAI, WorldSkillsIndia and 3 others

India's retail market is expected to nearly double to US\$ 1 trillion by 2020 from US\$ 600 billion in 2015, driven by income growth, urbanisation and attitudinal shifts.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 24 Dec 2015
Udai Singh, Chief Strategy Officer, NIIT Ltd shares his views on the Chiphen Rigpel project.
niit.com/india/training...
 ↳ Udai

We started this prestigious project in 2010 with an aim of enabling Bhutan to transform into a knowledge society. We have used every capability that we have built at NIIT over the last 30 years of operating at a global level in the Educational Technology & Talent Development space in this project.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 28 Dec 2015
Master's Prog in #CyberSecurity is first-of-its-kind work-integrated prog with globally recognised framework.
 ↳ NIIT University, PwC India, NASSCOM and DeitY

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 28 Dec 2015
Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman NIIT Group & Founder NU talks about Cyberspace & partnership with @PwC_IN #Skills2Win
 ↳ NIIT University, PwC India, NASSCOM and DeitY

Technology has changed the way businesses are run and has brought along with it unique challenges and threats. In today's digitized environment securing our cyberspace has become a priority for businesses and citizens across the world. This calls for a team of trained professionals who are equipped to combat the challenges that are posed by hackers every day. Our partnership with PwC India is a step in that direction.

NIIT Limited @NIITLtd · 30 Dec 2015
NIIT IFBI announces launch of Certificate Prog in Banking Sales & Marketing in association with Catholic Syrian Bank
 ↳ Catholic Syrian Bank and Skill India

NIIT IFBI announces Certificate Program in Banking Sales and Marketing in association with Catholic Syrian Bank.