

Mint

It's all about innovation

'Eximius' summit brings out the best from the whizkids

STAFF REPORTER

Imagine a one-stop online platform for applying to thousands of engineering colleges all over the country. Imagine a collective peer-to-peer solution for vehicle parking in congested neighbourhoods. Think of a social networking platform geared towards education, with each student able to get just the right tutoring material for himself.

These were some of the innovative ideas that came out of the first entrepreneurship summit - Eximius - organised by the Entrepreneurship and Innovation cell at the

Eximius 2008. Ingen received enthusiastic participation from across the globe. The audience consisted of many CEOs and venture capitalists on the lookout for the next big idea in India's learning space.

There was also an idea valuation competition - Genesis - which gave a platform for the participants to meet prospective venture capitalists across domains, and seek feedback for their ideas. The team "MobMe" from Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai, was the winner of this competition.

"Innovation Challenge - Transforming India" had ideas across the board having a direct social, economic and technological impact. To assess and evaluate these impacts, experts from fields as diverse as socio-political to environmental were present.

National Skills Registry set for half-million mark

Nasscom Looking At Tie-Ups With Universities For Registration Of Students

Deepshikha Mehta

The National Skills Registry (NSR), an IT industry database of employees to register employment opportunities to meet demand, is set to reach a million registrations by March, says Nasscom.



NSR targets each employee, whether employed or unemployed, to be a part of the registry. The NSR will take time to address the issue of data entry and to ensure that the quality of data is maintained.

The NSR is a central database of the educational qualifications and skills of a person, across all sectors, to be used to ensure that quality of the data is maintained. The information is verified by an independent third party provider. Currently, there are 14 million registrations and over 140,000 employees registered with NSR.

"The industry has a fairly large employer and employee database. While the data here is handled by NSR, it is not a challenge to register it," says Mehta.

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Nasscom suggests PPP model for IIITs

PTI

The pattern of administration, use of curricula and autonomy of funds raising for the proposed 20 Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT) came up for discussion at a meeting of education officials on Thursday. The meeting chaired by higher education secretary RP Agarwal discussed the detailed project report on the IIITs prepared by National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom) on the proposed IIIT. Nasscom has suggested a model under which the IIITs will be set up on a public-private partnership (PPP) basis with autonomous status and the government's investment will be less than that of the private players.



Each IIIT will have a capital base in which the government's contribution will be less than that of the private players. "The partnering companies will give Rs 1.5 crore while the government will have to provide Rs 1.49 crore. The government's share will be less than 10% of the equity," an official said. In addition to this, each institute will get Rs 90 crore as repayable loans from the government.

The IIITs will also raise funds from different other funding agencies.

The finance minister has already announced that the educational institutions under the PPP model will be provided three times of the promoter's capital as loans. Similar provision can be made for each institute which will get Rs 90 crore as loans, the official said. Each institute will be an autonomous body with all rights to deal with admission, retake, salary, strike and fee. Nasscom has suggested that there be a separate board for the IIITs which would oversee the functioning of the institutes and monitor quality.

"These institutes will not come under purview of UGC or AICTE. The IITs will have all rights to deal with admission, retake, salary, strike and fee. Nasscom has suggested that there be a separate board for the IIITs which would oversee the functioning of the institutes and monitor quality. The IITs for which loans will be provided by the state, will spread over 10 acres of area and will be completely integrated campus with science and technology parks, the IIT said.

The Economic Times

BPOs BRING THEIR OFFICES HOME

ATTENTION LIKELY TO DIP AS VIRTUAL BPOs TAKE WING



As a time when large IT service providers are bringing their offices back to India, BPOs are also doing the same. Many BPOs are now setting up offices in India, as well as in other countries. This is due to the fact that BPOs are now being seen as a viable option for companies looking to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

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Though the Indian IT majors have historically focused on the export market, it will pay to look home as well. A market where BPOs are driving away with good deals, says Harvinder Singh.

Financial Express

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THE MONDAY INTERVIEW: GANESH NATARAJAN, Chairman, Nasscom

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Financial Express

IT training to varsity students soon

Rachana Khanzode
Mumbai, Sep 7

India's IT lobby is roping in colleges to mould suitable boys and girls for the sector. Come October, the National Association of Software & Services Companies (Nasscom) is starting a vocational training model at Indian universities, beginning with Pune University. The model replicates the practices in like Germany and Brazil, which have set certain benchmarks in IT and BPO training, says Ganesh Natarajan, chairman, Nasscom. "We first want to test this model in Maharashtra and then scale this initiative 10-fold by going to cities like Lucknow, Bhopal and Mohali and north-eastern cities," Natarajan adds.

The initiative, beginning just when the IT industry is scaling back hiring targets, comes as reassuring news about the sector's future employment outlook.

Germany and Brazil follow a dual-education system, in which a degree student simultaneously gets vocational training, largely funded by the government and supported by industry and chambers of commerce. "Nasscom, along with a large e-learning company and a technology company, has formed a consortium to bring vocational training to about 30,000 degree students of Pune University," says Natarajan. The training will impart professional IT & BPO skills in insurance, retail, hospitality and others.

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The Hindu Business Line

Nasscom plans to prepare 'career guide'

To help students know what the industry needs

Our Bureau

Hyderabad, Sept 7: IT trade body Nasscom announced that it plans to come up with a comprehensive career guide to assist students and professionals to choose paths based on what the industry requires.

Speaking at a news conference, Mr Som Mittal, president of Nasscom, said the career guide will be a reference manual in choosing a career, he said.



Dr Biju Reddy (left), Chairman, Governing Board of IIIT-H, and Som Mittal, President of Nasscom, at the 50th Foundation day of IIIT-H, at Mahabubnagar Hyderabad on Tuesday.

The focus is on creating a career guide to help students know what the industry needs. The guide will be a reference manual in choosing a career, he said.

On the issue of one of the presidential candidates stating the performance of the Indian economy was growing at 10 per cent, Mr Mittal said that the overall growth of the Indian economy was 10 per cent, he said.

'Product companies will drive the next wave of innovation'

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The Hindu

'India's role in IT can't be reversed'

Special Correspondent

HYDRABAD: "India is part of the global delivery chain. I don't think it is reversible," says Som Mittal, president of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom) here on Tuesday.

Responding to queries from persons after participating in the 50th anniversary of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom) here on Tuesday, Mr Mittal said that the IT industry was growing at 24 per cent year-on-year, contributing 5.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and exporting software worth \$50 billion annually.

On a question on the move of Barack Obama, the Democratic Party's nominee for the American presidency, to stop incentives to IT companies outsourcing their work, he said, "It is for the U.S. companies, which give a large portion of work for outsourcing, to decide. We will wait and watch."

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