

Interview

Prof VS Rao

NURTURING INDUSTRY READY GRADUATES



NIIT University has partnered with 519 industry leaders for its 6-month industry practice course for all undergraduate students during their four-year programs

innovation and instill the culture of entrepreneurship in the DNA of its learners.

Innovative products are increasingly coming out of NU, conceptualized and created by its students. The university's B.Tech class of 2013-17, for example, has been responsible for imaginative and breakthrough software applications. These include ASAP Messenger, SmartBin, and EDAWS, an early diagnostic and warning system. All these apps are a result of serious exploration and dabbling in the extraordinary by students.

Among the start-ups that have been incubated in the NU campus are Peer XP Technologies, RAAV Technologies, AT-Lead and Czar Securities. Notable amongst these are AT-Lead, a drone design and manufacturing center founded by Atif Inayat Khan and Czar Securities, a cybersecurity solutions venture set up by Shikhil Sharma and Ananda Krishna. The duo of Shikhil and Ananda in fact won the Start-up Pitch at the prestigious Global Conference on Cyberspace 2017, where Astra, a web security solution developed by these NU students, enabled them to be recognized as the 'Most Innovative Start-up' at the conclave. The students were presented the award by none other than the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.

Q. How was the placement of the last batch?

NIIT University, has achieved 100% placement of its B Tech programme for 5 years in a row. NU has achieved 100% placement in B.Tech – CSE, ECE, Biotechnology and M.Tech – GIS.

This year, the prominent recruiters like IBM, Sapient, PwC, Reliance Jio,

Zomato, ZS Associates, ESRI India, MapMyIndia, Fortis, National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS) and Thales Group continued to show faith in the calibre of the students.

Tell us about the measures taken up by NU to save environment.

The environment policy of NIIT University is a unique initiative where a campus is established on a comprehensive long-term master plan keeping environmental considerations at the centre. The University directly adjoins a 750-acre range of pristine hillocks which form the foothills of the Aravali Range, and we are fully committed to protect and conserve the

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natural environment and provide a safe, comfortable, healthy and interactive educational, working environment, optimize the use of energy and natural resources through effective training on prevention and reduction of exposure to environmental risks and hazards.

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Making the hills green- NU students have launched a drive called 'Shram-Daan' in an effort to convert the neighbouring barren 'Kali Pahari' to a fertile 'Hari-Pahari'. About ten-thousand trees of various varieties have been planted in the neighbouring hills during the monsoons this year.

Drip-Irrigation- NU has adopted about three hectares of nearby land for tree-planting.

Minimizing carbon footprint through Earth Air-Tunnels- The NIIT University earth air-tunnels act as enormous self-regulating heat sinks for the campus, with little electricity required to cool or heat the air. The earth air-tunnel installation harnesses wind chimney for a natural ventilation effect.

Preserving natural resources with water-recycling- NIIT University campus is being designed with rainwater harvesting facilities and water recycling system.

Containing illegal mining of rocks- Blasting in surrounding ranges of Aravalis and illegal mining of rocks, earlier a rampant practice, has now been successfully curbed through a positive collaboration with local people.

Controlling Soil-Erosion- NU highlighted the problem of washing away of fertile top-soil during monsoons by putting forth videos and pictures of soil erosion to mobilize public opinion. With the support of District authorities NU got over a dozen of large earthen dams created to contain the monsoon waters.

Nursery of local plant varieties- NU nursery is also home to the 'Jal Pilu' tree, a native plant which has now become extremely rare in the region. NU plans to plant more than one thousand Jal trees by the end of this year.

Minimizing fossil fuel consumption through 'Pedestrian Only Campus'- The campus is comfortably explored on foot via the 'pedestrian promenade' that seamlessly unifies the campus and provides a daily meeting place for students, faculty and staff. 