

**Press Release** 

## NIIT University completes 5 years of innovation in higher education

## Demonstrates leadership in fostering seamless learning and driving industrylinked curriculum

- Academicians, industry leaders and students converge at the Sixth Annual Lecture by Dr. Karan Singh on - 'The Message of the Bhagwat Gita'
  - NU commences successful placement season with students getting placed in leading organizations across India

**Neemrana, November 15, 2014**: Established with a vision to bring about innovation in higher education and learning in emerging areas of the knowledge society, the not-for-profit NIIT University (NU) today hosted the 6th Annual Lecture by Dr. Karan Singh, Chairperson, NIIT University and Hon'ble Member of Parliament, at the University campus in Neemrana.

The significant occasion, which also coincided with completion of 5 years of NU, saw academicians, industry leaders and students converging at the campus to deliberate upon the importance of seamless learning in fostering holistic development and critical thinking among students. The importance of industry-aligned curriculum to offer challenging career opportunities to students in today's knowledge economy was also highlighted. They also discussed how higher educational institutions could help students apply their knowledge and technological know-how to real life problems. Such an approach would, in turn, open employment and entrepreneurship avenues for the students, and groom leaders who are in tune with the social and economic environment around them.

Congratulating Mr. Pawar and his team on completion of five years of excellence in holistic education by NU, **Dr. Karan Singh, Chairperson NIIT University and Hon'ble Member of Parliament** said, *"Five years ago, NIIT University gave a glimpse of what future educational institutions could be. Today, I am glad to see the transformation of that vision into reality. Within a short period, NU has established itself as a new model in higher education, providing a seamless learning environment which fosters holistic development and critical thinking among students."* 

"Education is a complete process that should nurture quest for eternal knowledge to help transform young minds into 'karma yogis' who would strive to work for the betterment of the society. I take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Pawar and his team who have been working tirelessly for the last five years towards shaping such future leaders, for the knowledge society", added **Dr. Singh.** 



In today's knowledge driven global economy where 'being prepared for change' is the key to success, the debate on whether our higher education system is aligned to the industry needs has become even more relevant. Conceptualized as an institution of excellence, NIIT University is poised to meet the emerging needs of the knowledge economy through its focus on building strong industry linkages and seamless research-oriented approach. Since its inception in 2009, NIIT University has made significant progress in research and innovation in curriculum development and design. NIIT University provides exceptional education based on four Core Principles that make learning industry-linked, technology-based, research-driven and seamless.

**Mr. Rajendra S Pawar, Founder, NIIT University and Chairman, NIIT Limited** said, "I am delighted that our vision of offering holistic education to groom youth to take up the challenges of a fast evolving knowledge economy has taken off, as NU students move into the real world of corporate and business. I am confident that the education that they have received here will guide them through their lives. I congratulate my team who has worked with conviction and commitment to give shape to this vision."

**Dr. Rajendra Pandey, President, NIIT University**, said, "NIIT University has successfully combined seamless approach to higher education with the needs of the modern economy to create an institution that nurtures holistic development, critical thinking and ability to contribute meaningfully to the fast evolving knowledge economy."

With a view to create graduates who are aligned to the needs of knowledge economy, NIIT University offers a unique 6 month industry internship program that has been designed to integrate academic pursuits with practical knowledge and experience. This program gives every student in NIIT an opportunity to meaningfully engage with leading corporate houses, thus making industry-linkage an intrinsic part of its academic curriculum.

Over the years, NU has focused on building extensive linkages with the industry – it has active collaborations with leading organizations like: Microsoft Research, IBM Research, Ruckus Wireless (India and USA), Alcatel-Lucent, Bell-Labs Research, SASKEN Communication Technologies and Research in Motion. It has also added industry-linked courses like the **MTech in Geographic Information System** (GIS) in collaboration with ESRI and the MBA (Finance & Banking) in partnership with ICICI Bank.

Recently, the 4<sup>th</sup> Convocation ceremony was hosted at the University campus. Mr. K Ramkumar, Executive Director ICICI Bank, the chief guest on this occasion, awarded degree certificates to 236 students for successful completion of various programs at NU. Seven students received gold medals for exemplary performances in their respective fields. The University commenced a successful placement season with students getting placed in leading corporates across India like Pricewaterhouse Coopers,



KPMG, Amazon, IBM, SAP Labs, MakemyTrip, Ibibo Group, PayU India, SMU Singapore, Cognizant, Fortis, Innovaccer, ICICI Bank etc.

## About NIIT University

Set up with the vision of being the leading center of innovation and learning in emerging areas of the Knowledge Society, the not-for-profit NIIT University is dedicated to building great careers and ensuring excellent job opportunities to all its students. It has been developed as an institution of excellence to provide exceptional education based on the four core principles that make learning industry-linked, technology-based, research-driven and seamless.

The NIIT University offers **B. Tech Programs** in Computer Science Engineering, Biotechnology, Mechanical and Electronic and Communication Engineering, **M. Tech Programs** in Educational Technology, & Geographic Information Systems and **Ph.D Programs** in Humanities & Social Sciences and management in addition to all the above disciplines.

Dual degree integrated 5 year B. Tech - **MTech Programs** in Computer Science Electronics & Communication, Mechanical engineering, Educational Technology, Geographic Information Systems and Biotechnology are also offered by NU. These contemporary and industry-relevant programs are customized to prepare skilled professionals and researchers for high-end mobile computing and wireless, communication technology and biotechnology jobs. Highly qualified faculty, state-of-the-art laboratories, associations with research labs and research universities in USA and UK, strong wireless stimulation, performance and modeling concepts are other unique features of these programs.

NIIT University has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Missouri - Kansas City's (UMKC) School of Computing and Engineering, to offer a 5-year program that will allow students to secure B. Tech degree from NU & and MS in Computer Science Engineering from UMKC. This is the first of its kind landmark agreement between two educational institutions to collaborate in B.Tech and MS degree programs and research activities through the exchange of degree seeking students and faculty members in the area of computer science and computer engineering.

The University also offers an **MBA Program** (NU- MBA) designed to help aspiring professionals build meaningful connections to the real world of business and become successful leaders of the future. NU-MBA trains future CEOs to deal with the challenges and opportunities thrown up by emerging economies such as China and countries in Africa through its 'International Immersion program'. The University also offers industry-linked program in **MBA (Banking & Finance)** in collaboration with ICICI Bank.



NIIT University has entered into a partnership with Autodesk to promote **'Design Thinking'** as a course across all disciplines of B.Tech Programs. NIIT University has a unique 'Microsoft Innovation Centre' on campus that features the best of equipment, the latest technology & expert guidance that fosters an environment of learning & entrepreneurship on campus. **The Asian Lenses Forum** has been set-up at NIIT University to sensitize young generation and to create a sense of pride in Asian/Indian heritage, culture, history and values amongst youth. The forum will also act as a launching pad for the faculty and student bodies of NU to undertake research and disseminate knowledge about achievements and role of Asia to the world.

Vibrant social and recreational activities form the heart of Campus Life at NIIT University, with a host of student activities interspersed along the central walking spine. The Campus provides students a wide array of sports activities like volleyball, basketball, tennis, a golf putting range and gymnastics. Furnished student hostels make life comfortable for students. Temperatures are maintained at the Campus all year around using an energy-efficient, geothermal cooling system, with minimal carbon footprint. For further information please visit <u>www.niituniversity.in</u>.

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