

PanIIT Team-for-ITI Newsletter

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Contents

- 1 From the desk of Admiral Bhatia
- 2 Arc Welding Simulator demo
- 2 Inter ITI Interactions
- 3 Educomp at ITIs in North India
- 5 The CII comes on board
- 7 A Researcher from Texas
- 7 Digital Study Hall
- 8 New member orientation
- 8 Blue Book Project

***“Partnership with the
Confederation of Indian
Industry (CII) will amplify
our efforts”***

- Admiral Bhatia

IIITians for ITI – a PanIIT Program

Driving Excellence in Technical Training in India

"IIITians for ITI" is a nation building program launched by PanIIT India to improve ITIs (Industrial Training Institutions) and to drive sustainable excellence in India's vocational/technical training. To find more information about the program, please visit:

<http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/welcome.html>

To join the Program, visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/28km4f>

From the desk of Admiral Bhatia

Admiral Bhatia is the program president for the IIITians for ITI program in India.

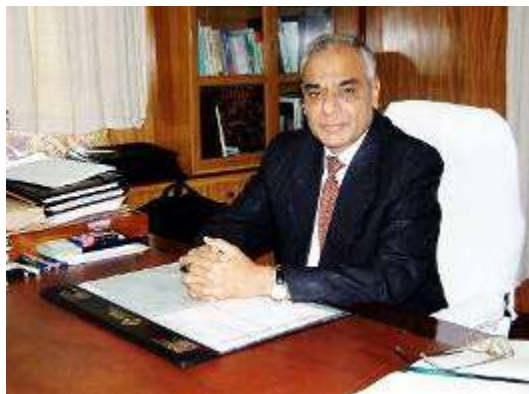
"My greetings to all the members of our team who are making things happen on the ground, and to the readers of this newsletter who have been supporting us in one way or the other over the past year and a half.

The first half of the year 2008 has generated a lot of excitement amongst the volunteers who are doing the lion's share of the work of our program. The most important developments include the emerging partnership with the CII for a skills initiative program, and our interactions with industries such as L&T, Pipavav Shipyard Ltd and many others. The efforts towards interaction with the government have been met positively. A case in point is the meeting held at Ahmedabad with the Gujarat Government to take this program forward. These are major mile stones, and we will build on them in the future. Even as I write this note, the CII-PanIIT partnership is moving forward. You will read a little about the initiation of this partnership in this newsletter. We will share more details with you in our forthcoming issues.

The weight of the CII will amplify the effectiveness of our efforts. I wish to acknowledge the CII at this initial stage itself for placing faith in our nascent team and for encouraging us to move forward together. For nation building, it is essential that all forward thinking people and organizations work together in a synergistic manner.

I want to encourage more IIITians to join our efforts. For a developing nation, it is essential to spread education and vocational training. We need to be at the forefront of this effort."

- Rear Admiral (Retd.) R.M. Bhatia
IIT Delhi 67 Batch
Program President (India)



Ashok Kalbag organized a demo of the arc welding simulator technology. The PanIIT organization sponsored the visit of ITI faculty from Pune and Rahula to Gujarat.



Principal Shinde of ITI, Thane addresses the participants of the arc welding simulator workshop while the trainer, Dr. Baskaran, looks on.

Arc Welding Simulator demo at ITI Thane

Ashok Kalbag, Secretary General of the PanIIT Alumni Association, organized a demonstration of an arc welding simulator at a workshop organized at ITI Thane in the first week of April 2008. This is a technology which was developed by the Paton Welding Institute in the Ukraine for training welders. The simulator improves the effectiveness of training by providing feedback, and eliminates the need for welding consumables, allowing for a lot of flexibility in training. The demo was organized to train the trainers. Faculty members from various ITIs were sponsored by the PanIIT organization to attend the program. Mr.Gurunath Rao, Head of Quality Assurance, Pipavav Shipyard Limited of Gujarat, also attended. Ten faculty members from ITIs in the Pune region, and two from the Bhavnagar region attended. Dr.B.V.Baskaran, representing the JSS-India International Welding Technology Center, Mysore, trained the participants at the workshop. Mr.Vijay Talele was kind enough to arrange for the hospitality including the living accommodations for Dr.Baskaran.



A participant tries his hand at the arc-welding simulator

Inter-ITI interactions

The possibility of inter ITI interactions is being explored with a view to exchange best practices. Our team leader in the Eastern Zone, Shyamal Chatterji (Shyamal Da), visited ITI Aundh in March 2008, accompanied by our Program Launch Coordinator, Ranjan Kumar. They were welcomed by Principal B. R. Shimple, who gave them a tour of the facilities, and shared his ideas and visions for technical education in India.

The possibility of a visit by a team from ITI Tollygunge, Kolkata to ITI Aundh is now being explored.

Educomp initiative at ITIs in North India

IITians at Educomp are leading its efforts to enhance the employability of the ITI students in the Indian Industry. Under ITI PPP scheme, Educomp (Educomp Solutions Ltd) has signed MoA with five state governments in North India and is evaluating proposals from seven other states. For these ITIs, EduComp employees will serve as the chairman of the institute management committee. EduComp will be running these ITIs by providing strategic leadership as well as helping the principal of the ITI in the day to day working of the ITIs.

The objectives are:

- To train multi skilled work force of world class standard suitable for the competitive world labour market.
- To implement effective Management Information System (MIS) and Quality Management System for the ITI
- Coordinating with industry for sharing of technology and resources
- Identifying the cluster of skill requirement in the formal and informal sector
- Developing linkage with other CoE in the State and Outside the State for identifying and removing bottlenecks in creating employable skill.

Some activities planned are:

- To run courses for basic language skills, IT skills and basic math's etc so to impart skills to the students to bring them to a certain predefined level.
- To train the Teachers in the latest methods of teaching using IT & ITES, English Language and other soft skills,
- To offer short term modular courses with employment linkage with the Industry to existing ITI students or school drop outs.
- To impart self employment skills with a micro financing option to start an enterprise for those opting to be self employed.

EduComp will depute dedicated team of qualified Industry experts in these clusters for day to day operations and to incorporate the best practices from the industry. Educomp will also run various initiatives in the vocational space in sectors like retail, BFSI (Banking, Financial services & Insurance). Educomp has joined hands with PanIIT towards our shared vision.

An Invitation from Educomp for IITians

“We would like to invite fellow IITians to come forward and be part of the management teams for ITIs and give us their inputs to improve the ITI's functioning. For the institute management committee of each ITI, we are looking for 4 more members. IITians can also help in running a world class programme across the ITI's based on the latest Information technology methods.”

Sharad Agarwal (IITK '86)
Anuj Ahuja (IITD '91)
Educomp



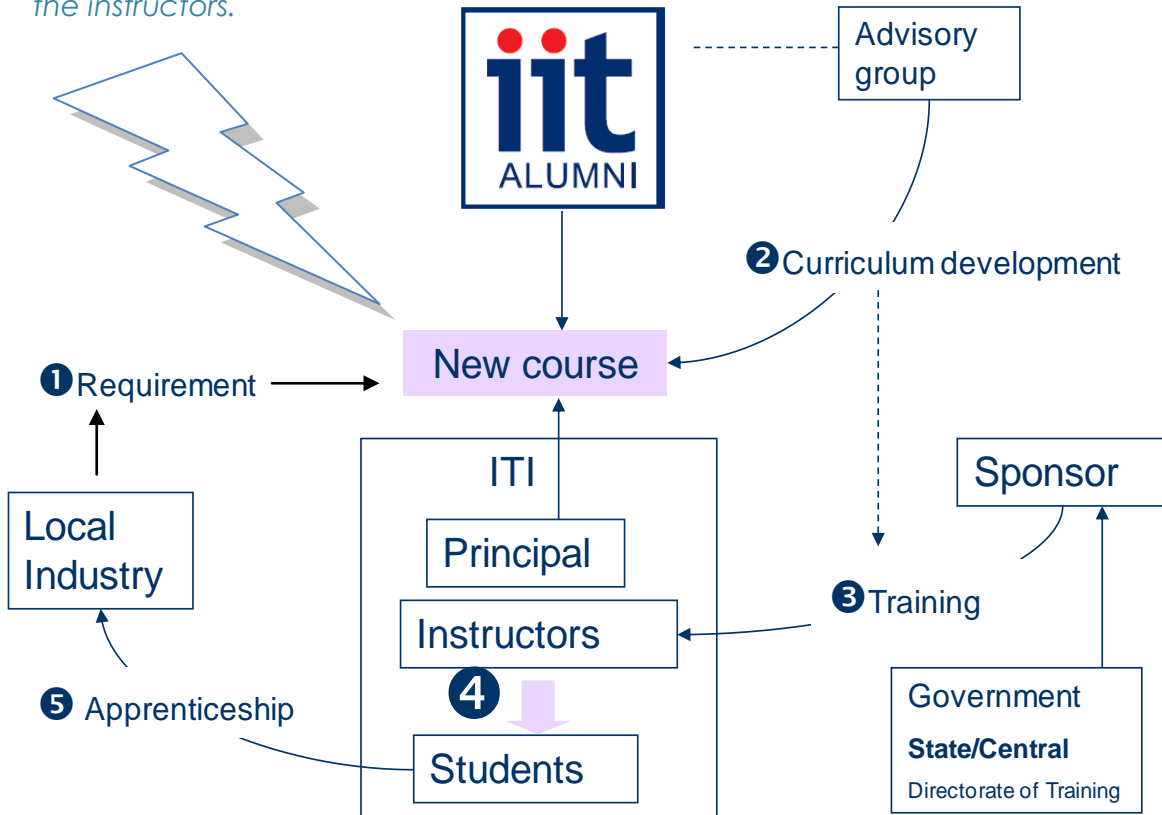
Educomp has signed up to manage 17 ITIs in North India.

Sharad Agrawal (IITK '86) is the chairman of Institute Managing Committees of 4 ITIs in North India.

Educomp has invited IITians to join the management teams for ITIs in North India.

How does PanIIT Team for ITI get the students trained?

The team helps introduce a new course at the ITI based on the needs of the local industry. The team enables each step of this process, working closely with Institute Management Committee (IMC), resulting in upgrade of the curriculum and training of the instructors.



- 1 Get requirements for a new course from the industry
- 2 Joint development of curriculum by the advisory board and the ITI principal and instructors
- 3 Instructor's training in conducting the course
- 4 ITI to offer the course and the instructors train the students
- 5 Local industry to provide apprenticeship to the qualifying students

You can help young aspiring students from your hometown in getting trained for good jobs in the industry!

Join hands now with the program team and revitalize the ITIs near your hometown. Seize this opportunity to champion an ITI near your hometown and rally other IITians around the world towards driving excellence at that ITI.

Uttar Pradesh:	Etah,	Fatehpur,	Sitapur,	Chandausi	
Rajasthan:	Paratapgarh,	Balotra	Khetri,	Jhalawar	Dungarpur
Haryana:	Kaithal,	Bhiwani	Kurukhetra		
Punjab:	Manuke,	Neelpur,	Rajpura(W),	Patiala(W),	
	Hoshiarpur(W)				

Seize this opportunity to champion an ITI near your hometown

To participate in upgrading the ITI in any of these towns, write an e-mail to sharad.agarwal@team-for-iti.org



L&T will provide its training material to our program team for upgrading any of the ITIs.

For this purpose, PanIIT and L&T have signed an MoU.

L&T welcomed Ms. Rosemary Fernandes to their training center

An evangelist for the program – and she brings the CII on board

On her visit to India from the US, Ms. Rosemary Fernandes (B.Tech_IIT/M '77) went on a whirlwind tour of India in the first quarter of this year and helped initiate the industry, CII, PanIIT interaction designed to address the issue of enhancing the quality of technical education at the ITIs. Here are some excerpts from her reports:

"A few weeks ago, I made a presentation about the ITI to the PanIIT 2008-Conference committee. There was a very good response, and quite a few people sought more information. The chairperson, Mr. Santhanam, who heads Saint-Gobain, sent me a note advising a meeting with the CII director for Skills Training, Ms. Mary Stella, here in Chennai. We met and came up with some points for discussion with the CII."

"Mr. Santanam also heads the Skills Committee of CII here in Chennai. I have run some initial ideas by Mr. Santhanam. Overall, CII is interested in working with PanIIT on specific areas of the ITI initiative."

"I also had a few meetings with the Pyromatic team and was able to meet with Mr. Kalyan from the Reach for India program when he visited Chennai. The discussions between Pyromatic and Mr. Kalyan resulted in a road map for Pyromatic."

"Today I met with Mr. A. L. Sekar from L&T, General Manager for India, Factories and Residential Buildings unit. He is a classmate of mine from IITM. He also has been involved in the skills training program that L&T runs for kids from rural areas. I was very interested to see the training facility, and was quite impressed with their intake program and training methods. Mr. S. Natarajan, who is the head of Construction Skills training, and Mr. P.R. Srinivasan showed me around and explained their process in detail. L&T is very interested in getting involved in the IIT team for ITI program. They can contribute in several ways, including the curriculum, process, and assessment methods. They seem very keen to be involved with us."

"I also ran the Certification program that we want to initiate with them, and they are willing to accept a role in that process, too."

Ms. Rosemary Fernandes' effort has resulted in the formation of the CII-PanIIT interaction which is taking on a vibrant shape in the Blue Book project (See the back page for the call for action).

IITians anchor CII conference on ITIs in Chennai

To brainstorm the governance issues faced by ITI IMC Chairmen and Principals, CII organized a conference at Ramada Raj Park Hotel at Chennai on May 26, 2008.. Over 30 participants came to the program from Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Puduchery.

Mr B Santhanam (IITM '78) who is the CII Chairman of the Task Force on HR & Skills (on the right in the picture) presided over the meeting. Ranjan Kumar (IITK '86) from PanIIT anchored the meeting. Col K Radhakrishnan, MD, Worth Trust also addressed the meeting. Ms. Marty Stella, Director, Southern Region HQ, CII has been instrumental in strengthening our partnership with the CII, and was one of the driving forces behind this conference. A number of issues were raised by the participants. PanIIT team is working on the Blue Book to define processes and approaches to address these issues. You can see the report of the meeting here: <http://tinyurl.com/5ecpmo>



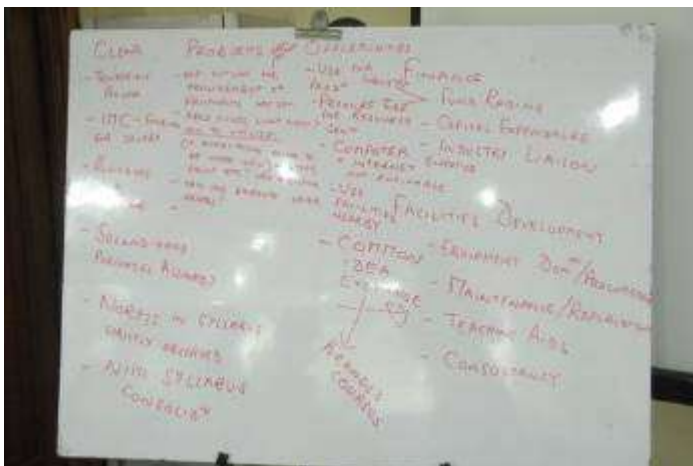
Mr. B. Santhanam flanked by Col. K. Radhakrishnan and Ranjan Kumar



Ms. Mary Stella, Director, Southern Region HQ, CII and industry delegates participate in the proceedings



Mr. Ranjan Kumar and Mr. B. Santhanam field a question



Several ideas were generated in the brainstorming session



The Toyota Kirloskar delegation contributes an idea

Texas to Pune : Rajiv Malkan's research

Rajiv Malkan is currently a professor of business and computer Information at Lone Star College-Montgomery in Conroe, Texas. He has been involved with vocational technical curriculum and economic development education for 23 years. Rajiv has been an advisor to our program team almost right from the start.

As a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Rajiv is researching technical vocational education and training in India. The Hon. Director (Training) of the Maharashtra Government and the Principal of ITI Aundh, Pune have very kindly consented to permit Rajiv Malkan to use ITI Aundh as a case study in his research. The visit is being coordinated by the PanIIT Team in Pune.

We at PanIIT expect that the outcome of Rajiv Malkan's research will be helpful in formulating the future strategies of our program. Rajiv will pay a visit to India during the September 2008 to conduct the study.

Digital Study Hall Pilot Project

To make a broad and deep impact at the quality of training at all the ITIs in the country, we want to find out what is the right technology and methodology that will help scale up and become a multiplier of our efforts. All of the stakeholders in technical/vocational education and training should be able to adopt such a scalable technology.

The team believes that one key reason why most ITIs are unable to impact quality training with up-to-date curriculum is that most of the ITIs lack qualified teachers. DSH is attractive as it directly addresses this problem. DSH makes the existing teachers more effective, while making the techniques of best of the teachers at ITIs available to the students. The purpose of this pilot project is to evaluate this hypothesis.

Rajeev Garg is leading the effort with Vekatesh Chavaly and Shyamal Chatterji in evaluating the applicability of Digital Study Hall model for vocational and technical training. Here is an introduction to the project: <http://tinyurl.com/5coxdg>

What is Digital Study Hall (DSH)?

Digital StudyHall is a research project that seeks to improve education for the poor children in slum and rural schools in India. In a nutshell, think of its technical approach as the educational equivalent of Netflix + YouTube + Kazaa. The Digital Study Hall project is working to create a digital database of curriculum currently sanctioned by the government for use by masses of students who do not have access to good schools. It video-tapes the instruction of the best teachers usually employed by private schools (Hub Schools) and then works with the local non-profits to train the best teachers in very poor public schools (Spoke Schools) to improve the quality of education for masses of children in these schools.

New member orientation

For new members, the Program launch team has put together an introduction to the program with progressive levels of details at

<http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/welcome.html>

*Sameer Bahadur is supporting
Rajiv Malkan in this work at ITI
Aundh in Pune*

*DSH could be the right
technology and methodology
that will help scale up and
become a multiplier of our
efforts.*



Join the effort of IITians at an ITI in your hometown by clicking here:

http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/Sign_up.html

Blue book – A joint project with CII

In collaboration with CII (Southern region), PanIIT is currently developing a handbook and its companion collaboration website for use by Institute Management Committees of ITIs. This project is entitled, "Blue Book".

The project is part of a top-down strategy of our program to help industry and ITIs solve the problems holistically. The purpose of the handbook and its companion collaboration website is to provide support and guidance to ITI's Institute Management Committees (IMC) for upgrading the ITIs and to manage the institutions going forward.

The handbook will provide ITI management guidance for optimum allocation of funding and processes for operational excellence.



<http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/projectmap.html>

Currently many ITIs work in silos – this handbook will help leverage best practice across ITIs. The handbook will also recommend next practices. The companion website will help make a lasting linkage of PanIIT with ITI system. This way PanIIT community can provide sustained support to ITI management at all levels. It will also provide a forum for international experts to make strategic contributions.

In this project, PanIIT is drafting a number of sections of the handbook. PanIIT will also setup a "Skills India 2020" web site to support the ITI management. PanIIT & CII will jointly setup a help line to provide support about processes by phone. CII will roll out the resulting Blue book and its companion website at conferences of IMC members of 42 ITIs in southern region. CII will distribute the first volume of the book during the upcoming Skills Conference in New Delhi.

A number of IITians have signed up as contributors and reviewers Kalyan Chakravarthy (IITM 2000) and Radha Pillai (IITK '74) are working closely with CII team in Chennai.. The team will also work with the IITians who have interacted with ITIs to identify the best in class practices. The chief editor of the blue book is Ranjan Kumar. (IITK '86)

Key contributors are Kalyan Chakravarthy, Sudhakar Mishra, Shyamal Chatterji, Sameer Sahay and Girish Deshmukh.

Program Leadership

PanIIT India Alumni Association

Program President	Admiral R.M. Bhatia
Launch coordinators	Ranjan Kumar
	Girish Deshmukh

PanIIT USA Alumni Association

Program President	Ray Mehra
Alumni Outreach lead	Rosemary Fernandes
Launch coordinators	Atul Mathur
	Seshagiri Rao

Steering committee

Suresh Shenoy	Alok Verma
Hiten Ghosh	Rassoul Dastmozd

Contributors needed for Blue Book Project

Do you want to make a broad impact on the quality of governance and training at ITIs around the country? Signup as a contributor! For an introduction to the project, see the project FAQ: <http://tinyurl.com/5fd3s6>

To give your input and to sign up for the blue book project, visit <http://tinyurl.com/5hyr8c>