

PanIIT Team-for-ITI Newsletter

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*The program team has over
125 IITians as members.
Project teams in India have
initiated work at 6 ITIs.*



ITians for ITIs – a PanIIT Program

Driving Excellence in Technical Training in India

"ITians for ITIs" is a PanIIT India nation building program launched to improve ITIs and drive sustainable excellence in India's vocational/technical training. The program will consist of many simultaneous projects at different ITIs (*Industrial Training Institutes*) around India. The PanIIT Organization is uniquely placed to make the program a success. PanIIT can leverage IIT brand to work with government agencies to clear roadblocks and solicit support from government and industry.

The Program is predicated on the active involvement of local IIT alumni, who will work at the local level, mentoring an Institute's principal, its instructors, students and also liaise with the local industry. Other IITians will support the local IIT Alumni by taking up program administration, governance and monitoring, as well as by financially contributing for instructor training, equipment and student scholarships. For more information about the program and to join the program team, please visit <http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/welcome.html>

From the desk of Admiral Bhatia

Timing for the launch of the programme is just right. Exponential growth being made by India in every segment of economy has resulted in creation of huge requirement of Skilled Manpower of diverse disciplines. Our task is to bridge the vast gap between the requirements of the Industry and the output being received from the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) through revision of syllabi, upgradation of faculty skills, and enhancement of quality of training through better management. Of course doing this within the boundary lines of ITIs and their present managerial structure would be our main challenge.

Now that the programme has been formally launched, it will operate under the banner of PAN IIT Alumni India (PIAI) association. The operation of the working team from India will be coordinated from Mumbai. Going forward, in the growth phase, I expect that there will be dedicated teams covering various regions. The regions I suggest are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Goa, Tamilnadu, Andhra, Bengal, Orissa, Northeast, North, MP and Delhi. The issues related to the government would be handled by the regional groups. This can be fine tuned as we get the volunteers from different geographical locations.

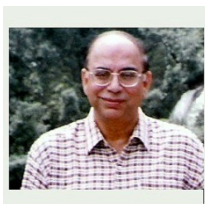
These regional nodes could then coordinate the activities of the teams functioning from cities in their respective regions. The cities which need to be focused on are: Pune, Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Bhopal, Surat, Chandigarh, Bhavnagar, Ahmedabad, Goa, Cochin, Mangalore, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Bhubneshwar, Raipur, Gauhati, Kanpur, Allahabad and Haridwar. As a part of our working groups we will involve volunteers/nominated reps from the respective ITIs also.

There has been a very positive response from members from India and abroad and we are very thankful to them. Let us Press on Regardless STEP by STEP and make our programme a great success!

Rear Admiral (Retd.) R.M. Bhatia (IITD '67)
Program President (India)

The program launch team would like to thank Atul Nigam, Prashant Purker, Anuj Kacker, Harsh Arora, Prashant Shukla, Seshagiri Rao, Salil Dave, and Hiten Ghosh for their sweat and toil in organizing the initial panel discussion at the PanIIT2006 conference in Mumbai, which set this program rolling

IIITians for ITI program was formally launched as a PanIIT Nation building project during iit2007 conference.



Shyamal Chatterji (IIT/KGP '68) joins the Institute Management Committee for ITI Tollygunge in Kolkata. Congratulations!

Program launch - iit2007 @ Santa Clara

All who attended iit2007 global conference in Santa Clara, CA would agree that it was a great show. It was the first global conference after PanIIT2006, and hence a natural platform for launching the PanIIT nation building projects. On July 5th, during the distinguished alumni meeting, Ashank Desai, Chairman PanIIT Alumni India introduced the IIITians for ITI program as a PanIIT nation building project. All the IIITians attending the conference received a flyer about all the 4 selected projects, which included a brief introduction to our program. On July 7th, during PanIIT India update session, Atul Mathur made a brief presentation about the program. Undoubtedly the highlight of the presentation and what excited all the attendees was the strength of 80+ IIITians members that is driving our program. This was the first time many members of the program launch team met in person. The effort was led by Ray Mehra, who is the Program President (USA). Atul Mathur and Ranjan Kumar were representing the program launch team. The conference is a milestone for our program.

Project Profile: ITI Tollygunge, Kolkata

In each issue of this newsletter, we will profile a project to keep all the members informed about what is going on. You will learn about recent accomplishments and upcoming events. -Editor

Since April 2007, Shyamal Chatterji (IIT/KGP '68) has been toiling tirelessly to launch the program in the Eastern region. In this effort, he has been supported by Ranjan Khastigar, Alkananda Rao and Sanjiv Rangrass. Abhijit Bhattacharyya has been also supporting these efforts from Florida. Shyamal da has focused his efforts at the ITI Tollygunge which is identified to be upgraded as center of excellence in production and manufacturing technology.

To upgrade the CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing) training program, Shyamal Chatterji is organizing a training of the ITI instructors by Cimatron on its popular CAM software. Cimatron has agreed to upgrade the software to the latest version free of cost. To buy the suitable PCs to run this software, PanIIT Pacific Northwest Chapter has raised the needed funds.



In recognition of his contribution, Shyamal Chatterji has been invited as a representative of PanIIT program team to join the Institute Management Committee for ITI Tollygunge in Kolkata. **Congratulations, Shyamal da!**

Program charter

IIITians for ITIs program aims to achieve the following goals on a sustainable basis:

- Set a globally recognized standard of technical training in India
- Facilitate imparting of such training to technicians in India
- Facilitate accreditation and branding of institutions, teachers, courses, and pupils for adherence to such standard
- Facilitate a mechanism for ongoing improvements and innovation in training
- Facilitate effective utilization of trained manpower in industry and entrepreneurship that inspires others to join the constructive opportunities

Indo-US Workshop on vocational and technical education in India in Summer 2008

Dr. Alok Verma has proposed a workshop to support the ongoing reforms in vocational and technical education in India and to establish pathways for achieving world class status. The workshop will bring together higher education, vocational and technical education, industry and government professionals from the United States and India to determine various collaboration models for improving the quality of vocational and technical education. This workshop will leverage the effort and resources available through the IITians for ITI initiative to create and expand the network of IIT graduates in adopting and helping ITI's.

The workshop will bring together higher education, vocational and technical education, industry and government professionals from the United States and India

The proposed workshop will bring together 12 experts from U.S.A. to India to share their experiences with 10 experts from India and 25 participants from ITIs. The focus will be on identifying various models of collaboration between the educational institutes within the two countries for the mutual benefit of technical education. For details of the workshop, please contact Dr. Verma at averma@odu.edu.

Dr. Alok Verma is Ray Ferrari Professor and Director – Lean Institute at the Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, Dr. Verma has submitted the proposal to Indo-US Science and Technology forum. Dr Verma (IITK '78) is a member of the steering committee of IITians for ITIs program.

Join the extended project team and help in coaching of individuals at the ITI and connect them to community colleges in USA

Alumni outreach in USA

Program team is launching an outreach effort to engage PanIIT USA chapter presidents and representatives. Acknowledging the independent and democratic nature of PanIIT chapters, the effort presents a framework for the chapters to select their level of participation in the program (see the diagram). The intended outcome of this outreach effort is to convince a critical mass of chapter representatives to promote IITians for ITI program in their chapters.

The immediate objective of this outreach effort for 2007 is to organize 20+ visits of IITians from USA to the partner ITIs. For more details, please visit <http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/outreach.html>

Connect
Make local and world-wide connections with like-minded IITians

Brand

Endorse the program. Members visit the partner ITIs with the project team. Encourage the ITI staff. Present the results to the chapter

Fund

Fund the project team operations, including the funding the professional development of faculty at the ITI

Own

Chapter participation in the program

Recent developments

- ❖ **Ranjan Kumar** (IITK '86) made a presentation to the PanIIT India Executive Council on May 18th. Several members of the Executive Council have pledged their support for the program.
- ❖ PanIIT Pacific Northwest Chapter members have pledged over \$2400 for the ITI Kolkata project, with each member pledging \$100. **Yudhishter Patel** (IIT KGP '75) has raised the bar by donating \$150. Over \$1500 have already been collected.
- ❖ **Sankar Biswas** (IIT KGP '81) reports that Surat project team's effort is bearing fruit at last and they have arrived at a common understanding with ITI management. The team has selected 5 disciplines for quality improvement.
- ❖ Did you know that **Vijay Talele** (IITB M.Tech(Mech)'86) of Kale Consultants is the chairman of Institute Management Committee for ITI in Thane, (Maharashtra)?

PanIIT Pacific Northwest Chapter has pledged over \$2400 for the ITI Kolkata project

New members and supporters

Program launch team would like to welcome new active members and supporters of the program team:

Radhakrishnan Pillai	Chennai (IITK 74)
RVR Reddy	Hyderabad (IITM 66)
Ajay Kumar	Bhopal (IITD '75)
Sanjeev Rangrass	Kolkata (IITK 82)
Pervez Daver	Pune (IIT B '87)
Mustan Tambawala	Mumbai (IITK '74)
Nabankur Gupta	PanIIT EC
Revathi Kasturi	PanIIT EC
Pradeep Kapse	PanIIT EC
Ravi Sakhuja	Lexington, MA (IITK 66)
Prabhakant Sinha	Chicago, IL (IITKGP)
Roopa Gir	VP, PanIIT USA

For new members, Program launch team has put together an introduction to the program with progressive levels of details. You can find that at <http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/welcome.html>

Upcoming Conferences

Look out for these upcoming PanIIT events and conferences.

iit Japan (http://www.iitjapan.org/)	Nov 15-17, 2007
PanIIT 2008 Chennai	November 2008

Upcoming program activities

Cimatron training at ITI Tollygunge	last week, October 2007
Alumni Outreach USA	October-November 2007
Indo-US Workshop(proposed)	June 2008

The program launch team would like to thank Rajagopal Tampi and Mustan Tambawala for introducing many new members to the program team.

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
Launch coordinators	Atul Mathur Abhijit Bhattacharyya

Steering committee

Suresh Shenoy	Alok Verma
Hiten Ghosh	Rassoul Dastmozd

Call for action: Sign up as a team coordinator

The governance model of the program envisages a number of teams, each led by one or more team coordinators. The underlying philosophy is to define teams/roles that are mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive. As a team coordinator, you will embody the program charter and the spirit of the program. In this role, you will define the team charter and execute on it by signing up other members of the team. The Program launch team is looking for coordinators for "" Alumni outreach/publicity" team, "Finance/Fundraising" team, Accounting/Treasurer, and "Program champions/volunteer coordinators" team. For more details about the role of team coordinators, and to volunteer for the team coordinator role, please visit <http://paniit.team-for-iti.org/lead.html>

What are ITIs: ITI stands for Industrial Training Institutes and there are more than 5000 of these institutes in India. However, the quality of training at the ITIs is rather uneven. These ITIs produce 700,000 technicians each year. Improving their skill level would be a very powerful channel of advancing India's technical/manufacturing capabilities.